

Mitterrand to seek second term

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand announced Tuesday he would seek a second term as president of France in elections to be held April 20 and May 5. The 71-year-old socialist, president since 1981, told French television in an interview he was the only person who could give France peace. "I want France to be united. It will not be if it is taken over by industrialists, parties and clans," he said. Opinion polls make Mitterrand the clear favourite to win a second seven-year term against the two leading right-hand challengers, Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and former Prime Minister Raymond Barre. In an unexpectedly strong attack on the candidates of the right, Mitterrand said: "I have listened to their speeches and, amongst all this noise, I perceive a risk for the country of falling again into the quarrels and divisions which have so often undermined it." Mitterrand, the first socialist to rule France since General Charles de Gaulle founded the Fifth Republic in 1958, said he wished he was 10 years younger. "It is a challenge I did not want for myself. Everyone will understand me. But I think it is necessary for someone to resist and I will do it," he declared.

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King sends message

CAIRO (Petra) — Egyptian presidential advisor Osama Al Baz Tuesday conveyed a message from His Majesty King Hussein to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in reply to a verbal message which was conveyed to the King by Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid at an audience Sunday.

Fayez off to Cairo

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House Speaker Akef Al Fayez Tuesday left for Cairo at the head of a Jordanian parliamentary delegation on a several-day official visit to Egypt where he will hold talks with his Egyptian counterpart on parliamentary and bilateral relations and the latest developments in the region.

Arafat in Romania

BELGRADE (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat arrived in Bucharest Tuesday for talks with President and Communist Party leader Nicolae Ceausescu.

Gemayel gets Shultz message

BEIRUT (AP) — American Ambassador to Lebanon John Kelly Tuesday handed President Amin Gemayel a letter from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz concerning the American

Mideast peace plan. After his meeting with Gemayel, Kelly told reporters that the United States supports Lebanon's desire to participate in a proposed international peace conference to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Ozal to visit Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal will pay an official visit to Iraq next week, a Turkish embassy official said Tuesday. The official told the AP Iraqi and Turkish officials have completed arrangements for Ozal's visit which would come four weeks after a similar trip to Iran.

Syria opens first women's military college

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria's first military college for women has been formally opened near Damascus by Defence Minister Major-General Mustafa Tlas, officials said Tuesday. Single women aged from 18 to 24 with high school degrees will train at the college for two years to graduate as second lieutenants.

Liberia 'foils' plot to kill Doe

MONROVIA (R) — Liberia said Tuesday it had foiled a plot to overthrow the government and kill President Samuel Doe. A statement issued by the Information Ministry said 12 of 19 suspected plotters had been arrested.

'Woman planted Beirut bomb'

BEIRUT (AP) — Police Tuesday raised the casualty toll in an explosion in an apartment building to two killed and 10 wounded and said the blast was caused by a bomb carried by a woman. The unidentified woman was one of the two people killed in the explosion Monday. The other victim was the landlord's 85-year-old father, Mohammad Kurdi. A police explosives expert told reporters he discovered parts of the woman's body on the staircase of the building at several hours after the blast.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تيمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الزاي»

OIC pays tribute to Palestinian uprising, promises support

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Foreign Ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Tuesday paid tribute to the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza and pledged support for the Palestinian struggle for liberation.

In a statement issued here Tuesday, the second day of their 17th conference, the OIC foreign ministers said "all Muslims in the world are proud of this uprising" and also called for international backing for the Palestinians.

The statement also promised "material, political and moral

Individual OIC member states whose representatives addressed the foreign ministers conference Tuesday also spoke in identical terms of the uprising.

OIC report

At the outset of Tuesday's session, OIC Secretary-General Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada presented a report to the foreign ministers on the various issues facing the Islamic World and the activities of the organisation since the last OIC summit, held in Kuwait in January 1987.

The report, he said, was drawn from memos submitted on various issues included in the agenda of the foreign ministers conference. The report outlined the secretary-general's efforts to achieve the goals of the OIC and implement decisions taken at the Kuwait summit as well as the last conference of foreign ministers, held in Morocco.

The report focused on various problems facing the OIC externally as well as internally. It also made many suggestions designed to increase the efficiency of the OIC. A special section dealt with organisational, administrative and financial matters.

Tribute to Pirzada

During Tuesday's session, several delegates praised Pirzada's efforts and contributions on the organisational

Text of statement on uprising

Following is the text of the statement issued by the OIC foreign ministers Tuesday on the Palestinian uprising:

The 17th Islamic conference of foreign ministers held in Amman, the land of steadfastness and the threshold of the Holy Land that Allah has sanctified, hails the uprising of our Palestinian brothers in the occupied territory of Palestine, and expresses its total support for our solidarity with them in their courageous confrontation with the policies of the oppressive Israeli occupation forces, as it expresses the pride of all Muslims throughout the world in this courageous uprising, and prays for the souls of its gallant martyrs who have sacrificed themselves and let their pure blood be shed in defence of their homeland.

"The heroic uprising, which is gaining in momentum, maturity, strength and scope every day, has belied Israeli allegations, created

(Continued on page 5)

Kaddoumi says new international resolutions needed on Palestinians

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said Tuesday that there was a need for "new" and "more advanced" international resolutions that could deal "adequately" with the legitimate rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people.

"The Palestinian uprising has made cracks and loopholes in the existing international resolutions which have so far been referred to as the basis for peace plans or even an international peace conference," PLO Political Department head Farouk Kaddoumi said.

"(These resolutions) have become inadequate and insufficient to serve as a basis for solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict," Kaddoumi told the Jordan Times in an interview.

He did not specify any pertinent resolution but said the international community "will sooner or later have to formulate new resolutions which respond to the new facts created by the uprising."

Kaddoumi's statements reflected to a great extent a very strong argument that has emerged within the PLO since the beginning of the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza last December, according to seasoned analysts.

According to this argument, endorsed by many Palestinian thinkers and officials, the uprising has underscored and emphasised the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination as "the essential element" in any formula to solve the Palestinian question.

During the Arab-Soviet dialogue held here last week, Dr. Ahmad Sidki Dajani, chairman of the PLO's Higher Education Council, clearly voiced this argument. In his presentation to the dialogue, Dajani called for a return to U.N. Security Council Resolution 181, known as the Palestine Partition Plan of 1947, as a basis of an international peace conference on the Middle East conflict.

Kaddoumi did not refer to the partition plan Tuesday but stressed that the international community "will eventually admit the

failure of all resolutions formulated so far to achieve just, comprehensive and durable peace."

'New facts'

Reiterating the PLO's support for convening an international peace conference, Kaddoumi said that the "conference will have to respond to the new facts and givens created by the uprising."

Although the uprising was initiated in the occupied territories, the support it gained from Israeli Arabs and the revolt's expression of demands for self-determination have strengthened the line of Palestinian thinking which rejects any consideration of any solution for the West Bank and Gaza as an issue separate from a comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian problem in all its aspects.

"... The struggle of Arab people in the occupied territories will continue and will push the situation in the area to a point where it will be impossible to go back to the conditions which prevailed before the uprising," Kaddoumi said. "Thus the new situation created by the uprising will confront the world with one choice, that is to recognise the inalienable legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to self-determination and to stop supporting the racial Israeli entity and its aggressive and expansionist policies."

In Kaddoumi's view, self-determination for the Palestinians is

"identical to and cannot mean anything but the establishment of an independent Palestinian state."

According to other officials, one of the PLO's main objectives at this stage is formulating Arab and international resolutions calling for an immediate Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories and the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

(Continued on page 5)

OIC contact group on Bulgaria submits report

AMMAN (J.T.) — A contact group formed by the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to study the issue of Muslims in Bulgaria Tuesday submitted its report to the 17th conference of OIC foreign ministers currently under way in Amman.

Among the recommendations made by the group were: That all member states of the OIC and specially those who have close relations with Bulgaria may convey their "deep concern to the authorities in Sofia over the conditions of Muslims and violation of their religious and cultural rights."

OIC members call upon the Bulgarian authorities to show "respect to their own constitution" and the international conventions and declarations to which Bulgaria is a

signatory. — OIC members which have diplomatic missions in Bulgaria should ask their personnel to make occasional visits to Muslim majority areas in Bulgaria.

OIC members loose no opportunity in raising the question of "violation of rights of Muslim minority in Bulgaria before appropriate international forums and agencies to bring constant pressure on authorities in Bulgaria to stop their process of assimilation of the Muslim minority."

OIC members which have deep economic relations with Bulgaria may notify the authorities in Sofia that in case of continued "persecution of the Muslim minority and denial of their religious rights," such relations may be affected.

Ministry spokesman Vadim Perilyev's comments last week that troops would be withdrawn with or without an accord, Shevardnadze said: "I don't know when he said that... we'll see."

The Geneva negotiations, held under U.N. auspices between Afghanistan and Pakistan, which has provided a haven to the U.S.-backed rebels, faltered last week over a U.S. demand that the Soviets end their military aid to the Kabul government in addition to withdrawing their troops.

Asked about the hard-line U.S. position on suspending military aid, Shevardnadze said: "We shall discuss this with the secretary."

The Shultz-Shevardnadze talks, which began Monday and are set to end Wednesday, are the

King, Queen begin Pakistan visit

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor began a four-day visit to Pakistan Tuesday during which they will also attend Pakistan's National Day celebrations.

A Pakistani government statement said the King's talks with President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo would cover "important regional and international issues."

The King and Queen were received upon arrival by Zia and senior Pakistani officials. Their Majesties were the guest of honour at a state banquet hosted by President and Mrs. Zia Tuesday night.

Immediately after arrival the King held a round of talks with Zia.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the talks centred on "issues of concern to the Arab and Islamic Worlds, development in the Middle East region, regional and international issues of common concern and means of bolstering Jordanian-Pakistani relations."

The King is accompanied by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh,

U.N. retains law firm in PLO dispute

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations has retained a New York law firm to respond to the U.S. order to shut the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) U.N. mission, a U.N. spokesman said Tuesday. The spokesman said the law firm would enter the case as a "friend of the court" if the United States took legal action to close the 13-year-old mission. Zehdi Labib Terzi, the PLO representative, told Reuters that as far as he knew Attorney General Edwin Meese had not yet acted, although March 21 was the deadline set in the closure order which Terzi has said he will defy. He said his own lawyers would respond to any U.S. legal action. Former Attorney General Ramsey Clark is advising the PLO. Meanwhile, a nine-member committee of non-aligned states led by Zimbabwe brought the issue to the attention of the U.N. Security Council, calling it a serious situation. A spokesman for council President Dragoslav Pejić said. The spokesman said Pejić, the chief delegate of Yugoslavia, was asked to inform council members of the situation and request that they intercede jointly and individually to try to resolve the issue.



HM King Hussein



President Zia Ul Haq

Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Zaid Ibn Shaker.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan was sworn in as Regent before the King's departure from Amman.

The war in Afghanistan is a major issue on the agenda of the talks between the King and Zia.

Foreign Minister Taher Masri told reporters Monday that "the Afghan issue is an important one and there is no doubt that (offers of) a Soviet withdrawal will be discussed."

Regent sends good wishes

The Regent Tuesday sent a cable of good wishes to President Zia on his country's National Day. The Regent expressed his delight over the progress in Jordanian-Pakistani relations which he described as "exemplary and brotherly."

"His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Pakistan is bound to further enhance bilateral ties in all fields," the Regent said and wished President Zia health and happiness and more progress and prosperity for the Pakistani people.

3 more killed in W. Bank and Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A 26-year-old man from the occupied West Bank village of Tubas died Tuesday from gunshot wounds received in a clash with Israeli troops the previous day, Palestinian sources said. Two other Palestinians were also reported killed in the occupied territories in circumstances pointing to Israeli involvement.

Relatives took Hikmat Darameh's body before it could be examined by army doctors and buried him at the village, the sources, quoted by Reuters said.

An army spokesman confirmed that troops opened fire when villagers attacked them with rocks and iron bars and later received reports from local residents that a protester had been shot dead in the clash.

Another Palestinian was killed in the southern part of the occupied Gaza when gunmen riddled his car with bullets, the spokesman said.

According to local reports, the man, a resident of Khan Yunis, stopped at a junction. Another locally-licensed car drew alongside and its occupants opened fire.

Police were investigating the incident and the killing of a 25-year-old from the northern end of the strip found with a smashed skull at the village of Beit Hanoun.

Israel Radio said Gaza police were unable to investigate the killings as 400 Palestinians had cut the force in response to calls from the uprising's leadership.

A military spokesman denied army involvement in the death and said no troops had been in Beit Hanoun Monday. But a resident of the village said the man's family believed he had been

beaten by soldiers because he was found in an isolated area off limits to villagers.

In other casualties Tuesday, officials at the Ahli Hospital in Gaza City said two men were admitted with injuries inflicted by Israeli troops.

One, from the Rafah refugee camp, had suffered a gunshot wound in his right leg and another, from the Jabalia refugee camp, suffered from serious beating injuries, they said.

In other West Bank protests, an Israeli driver fired shots from a

pistol near the Balata refugee camp near Nablus after his car was stoned, Israel Radio reported. There were no injuries.

In the West Bank, members of two Arab councils resigned Tuesday a day after an underground leaflet called for Israeli-appointed municipal officials to leave their jobs.

The leaflet also urged Palestinians to continue their protests and "show soldiers and herds of cowardly settlers with stones, molotov cocktails and iron bars" (see page 5).

Iraqis fire missile and stage air raids; Iranians attack two vessels

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq fired a missile into Tehran Tuesday and a military spokesman said Iraqi jets also raided seven Iranian towns while Iranian gunboats and a helicopter attacked at least two tankers in the Gulf.

Political sources said Iraq had slowed its missile attacks on Iran to one a day since last Sunday when it fired seven projectiles across the border, six in a single salvo.

"Iraq is more determined now to defeat the aggressors at the war front, to finish off the nests of false pretenders in all Iranian towns and to bring chances of peace closer," a military spokesman said.

He said the latest missile was fired at 5:38 p.m. (1436 GMT). It was the 103rd Baghdad has reported firing at Iran since the "war of the cities" erupted in late February.

Tehran Radio said the missile damaged several houses and a school and killed or wounded a number of people in the city.

The Baghdad spokesman said Iraqi planes made "destructive raids" on the Iranian towns of Shushahr, Reza'iyeh, Ilam, Salahi, Tabriz, Dezful and Kerdasht Tuesday and returned safely.

Tehran Radio said a number of people were killed and houses,

shops, a mosque and an "educational unit" were damaged. The daily high command communicate said Iraqi troops killed or wounded 200 Iranian soldiers in the northern sector of the war front.

In southeastern Turkey, a bomb dropped in open ground near the border village of Anadag Tuesday during a chase involving Iranian and Iraqi jets, eyewitnesses told Reuters.

The village, in Hakkari province, is only a few kilometres from the mountainous and ill-defined border separating Turkey from Iran and Iraq.

The witnesses said two jets, one Iranian and one Iraqi, roared over the village and one of them dropped a bomb before they sped out of sight.

Iran meanwhile renewed its

claims that Iraq was using chemical weapons. It said Iraqi warplanes dropped chemical bombs on three villages around the border town of Marivan, in the northern sector of their 1,180-kilometre warfront.

In the Gulf, Iranian gunboats and a helicopter alternated in a fierce dawn attack Tuesday on a Norwegian-operated tanker laden with Saudi Arabian ammunition, killing two seamen and injuring nine others.

Hours later, Iranian sea raiders struck a Greek supertanker on its way from Louisiana in the United States to the Saudi terminal of Ras Tanura, in the southern Gulf, and sent 10 of its 29 crew members fleeing to a liferaft.

The attacks were the seventh and eighth by Iran on neutral shipping since Friday.

Fahd, Habib discuss American peace proposal

RIYADH (Agencies) — Special U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib consulted Tuesday with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd on the American plan for a settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Riyadh Radio reported that Habib received Habib at the Yamama Palace without elaboration.

In the first public reference to Habib, the radio said that the U.S. envoy had arrived in the kingdom the previous day.

Habib has visited Egypt and Jordan before coming to Saudi Arabia. He is scheduled to later visit Morocco.

Neither Arab leaders nor Israel have given a clearcut response to the peace plan which U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz submitted to the concerned capitals on his recent Middle East shuttle.

No reply yet

In Washington, the State Department said the United States had yet to receive any formal response to its proposals.

Commenting on Habib's current tour of Arab capitals, de-

partment spokesman Charles Redman told reporters the U.S. side was closely consulting with countries in the region, but so far none had responded to the U.S. initiative.

"We do not have any responses in hand in that sense from any of the parties," he said.

Redman said the United States was awaiting a response before deciding what the next "appropriate" step would be, including a Shultz return to the region soon.

"We don't have any plans as of now to go to the Middle East," Redman said.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir promised Tuesday that Israel would soon decide the plan but said his government was under no American pressure to accept it.

Shamir, returning from talks in Washington on the peace plan, told reporters: "The government will discuss it and decide together how and what to decide."

Despite a proposal by Shultz to convene an international peace conference by next month, the Israeli leader insisted: "Nobody forced anything upon us, including a timetable."



A woman's nightmare: 'Divorced, once, twice, thrice'

Najwa Najjar explores violence against women in the first of three articles.

ANOTHER form of male violence against women is emotional abuse. "A man puts a woman down or makes her feel bad about herself, calls her names and makes her think she's crazy. All these mind games are part of the emotional abuse a woman suffers," said Ameri.

A graduate student drew a scenario which illustrates this form of violence: If a female tells a male that his behaviour has sexist overtones, the male often reacts by asking for a 'grocery list' or a legalistic argument. He beats

her comment to death by asking when, where, at what time, with whom, etc.

She believes these questions are unnecessary. "If a woman feels certain things, and she has some form of relationship with a man, that should be enough to start a discussion, not a debate in which one side must win."

The women interviewed believe that more often than not, it is difficult to "discuss" with men. They agreed that part of the male's mentality is inflexibility.

"Men have been trained from birth that 'You make up your mind once and for all'" said the graduate student.

Ameri pointed out that the male mentality also gives men the right to sexual abuse, "making a woman do sexual things against her will. Physically attacking the sexual parts of her body. Treating her like a sex object."

A young pregnant mother has been sexually harassed over the phone for the past six months. The anger, anguish, humiliation and helplessness she feels were apparent as she described her situation to the Jordan Times.

"I could be sitting at home, dressing or bathing my kid. The phone rings, usually after seven in the evening. Everytime the phone rings at this time, the feeling of fear hits me and I begin to tremble. He starts asking me sexual questions or making sexual remarks. Eventhough, I just hang up, he has already ruined my night and my mood for the next week, until he calls again."

"We are supposed to be equals in this establishment. Yet, when it comes to making the decisions, it is the men who have the last say. For example, we wanted to change the design of the office. The women offered their suggestions on which walls to knock down and what would be comfortable for them. Their suggestions were not even taken into consideration, the men got together in their little group and made their plans and designs."

She feels "raped by this bastard." To her, he is "invading my body, state of mind, privacy, everything. He is assaulting me in my own home, and I do not know how to handle it."

The irony of the situation is that when this mother went to the police station to report the telephone harassment and to tap her phone, "the policemen looked at

me 'funny' like 'what's a woman doing alone here'. My husband could not come with me, but that wasn't the worst part. They saw me as the provoker of these phone calls."

Isolation

A recently divorced woman spoke on another form of violence women are subjected to: Isolation. Ameri defined this form as "controlling what a woman does, who she sees and talks to and where she goes."

The woman, who was married for less than a year, felt like a prisoner in her home. However, the isolation was not imposed on her by only her husband, but his mother and sisters as well. "They wanted me to behave as a traditional Arab wife, to pamper and to cater to my husband's every need and to put aside all my needs and ambitions," she said.

She continued that when she did not fit the mould of the traditional woman, "they all felt they had the right to tell me how to live my life."

For example his mother wanted me to go with her for her morning coffees, his sisters did not like my friends since they (my friends) were single, and he did not want me to discuss any subjects which he did not know about in front of people."

This woman also suffered from another abuse, Ameri outlined: Threat. "Making threats and or carrying out threats to do something to hurt her emotionally."

"He threatened to divorce me in order to put me in my place," said the divorced woman. However, after the divorce, by her request, she said that both he and his family promised a change in attitude if she went back to

him. "Again, when I refused to comply to their requests, he started making threats. This time it was to ruin my reputation and consequently hurt my father by saying 'I slept with him before marriage'."

If a marriage involves children, many of the women noted that the male would use the children as a means of power and control. "A man can make a woman feel guilty about the children, use the children to give messages, and use visitation as a way to harass her," said Ameri.

A mother of two said that when she and her husband would "fight", "we would stop talking with each other for a few days. Usually I would go and apologise even if he was wrong because I could not bare to see my children as 'go betweens' between me and my husband and to see the pain on their faces."

Another woman was subjected to "economic" abuse as her husband was dependent on her economically. Ameri defines this form of violence as, "keeping a woman from getting or keeping a job, making her ask for money, giving her allowance, or taking her money."

"I cannot use my salary for anything I want. Every paycheck goes to the house and for expenses. Whatever remains goes to my husband," she said.

On the other hand a woman economically dependent on her husband express feelings of frustration every time she had to ask her husband for money. "Eventhough the money is for the house, I feel like he has the right to tell me and our children what to do because he is spending money on us, and that is infuriating," she said.



David Hockney etches the fairy tales

AMMAN (J.T.) — On show currently at the British Council is an exhibition of etchings by the well-known contemporary British artist David Hockney. The etchings are illustrations for six of Grimm's fairytales: The Little Sea Horse, Funnelvogel, Rapunzel, and the boy who left home to Learn Fear, Old Rinkrank and Rumpelstiltschen. The etchings are small but the detail is remarkable. A number of Renaissance influences are apparent ranging from Uccello to Hieronymus Bosch. The exhibition runs until March 27.

Prints have been a major preoccupation for David Hockney throughout his working life and he has won a number of international graphics prizes.

A number of other events have been arranged to complement the exhibition. Firstly, throughout the exhibition there will be continuous showings of a video film entitled *Hockney*. This shows David Hockney using a new way of making photographs without the traditional limitations of the camera.

Secondly, there will be two talks which develop the theme of storytelling — the subject of the exhibition itself.

On Wednesday Dr. Peter Whelan of Mu'tah University will give a lecture entitled *Fairy Tale Women*. He will refer to the text and illustrations of five of the six fairy tales included in the exhibition and show how the tales dramatize our secret lives and express our secret wishes. Dr. Whelan is particularly interested in the parts women play in the tales.

The second of the two talks should be of interest to language teachers. On Thursday, March 24 George Kershaw will lead a workshop entitled *Tales in School* where techniques for using narrative for language practise in the classroom will be discussed and demonstrated.

The artist

David Hockney was born in Bradford in 1937, began his studies at the local art school and

went on to the Royal College of Art where he studied from 1959-1962, graduating with the College's gold medal, and having won the Junior Section Prize at the John Moores Liverpool Exhibition of 1961. In the same year he won a prize for his print "Three Kings and a Queen" and made his first visit to New York. His career was launched on the crest of the Pop-Art wave and his work and personality attracted a degree of attention from the outset which has never significantly diminished. In 1963 a visit to Egypt at the invitation of the Sunday Times laid the foundations of a recurrent interest in Egyptian art. During the next decade Hockney travelled extensively and his work reflected his appetite for new environments and his capacity for utilizing what he discovered. He lived in Paris in the early 1970s but has made California his home since then, although he retains an unabated enthusiasm for travel and has recently toured in China. His work has been exhibited in almost every country and major retrospectives have been held at the Whitechapel Art Gallery in 1970, in the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in 1974, and the Tate Gallery in 1980.

Hockney's work has moved through a wide range of styles and he has throughout his career been fascinated by techniques and materials. He has explored the potential of acrylic, oil, crayon, pastel, photography, stage design, moulded paper-pulp and every kind of graphic medium. Prints have been a major preoccupation all through his working life and he has won a number of international graphics prizes. He has produced a huge corpus of prints including suites such as *The Rake's Progress* and *The Blue Guitar*.

In recent years Hockney has built a new reputation for himself in the field of stage design, with his sets for the Glyndebourne productions of the *Magic Flute* and *The Rake's Progress*, and for the triple-bill Parade at the New York Metropolitan.



An increasing number of women is taking part in various social activities. Here women are attending a 'friends of police' seminar (File photo)



More and more women are acquiring higher education and securing independent careers (File photo)

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17:40 Local series
18:30 Programme on Jordanian universities
19:05 Cairo News Magazine
19:15 Special programme on Islamic states
20:00 News in Arabic
21:00 Arabic series
22:00 Special programme
22:30 Wedding
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Champs Elysees
18:00 News in French
19:15 Aujourd'hui En Jordanie
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Sports Magazine
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Special programme
21:00 Documentary - Well-Being
21:35 Tales of the Unexpected
22:00 News in English
22:30 Fields of Fire (drama series)

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14:00 News Bulletin
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16:00 News in Summary
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19:00 News Desk
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21:00 News Summary

21:05 Evening Show Cont'd.
21:55 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show Continued
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07:10 World News 07:15 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Meridian 09:00 World News 09:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
09:30 Development '88 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 Classical Record Review 10:30 Just a Minute
11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News: Sports Roundup 11:45 Folk in Britain/Jazz Scene U.K. 12:00 News Summary: Omnibus 12:30 Yes Minister 13:00 World News 13:09 News about Britain 13:15 Byron Readings 13:25 A Letter from Wales 13:30 Meridian 14:00 Radio Newsdesk 14:15 Great Love Duet 14:25 The Farming World 14:45 Sports Roundup 15:00 World News 15:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 15:30 Development '88 16:00 Outlook: News 16:45 Report on Religion 17:00 Radio Newsdesk 17:15 A Hobby - or a Way of Life? 17:30 King Street Junior 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Rock Salad 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:09 A Letter from Wales 19:15 The Story of English 19:30 New Ideas 19:40 Book Choice 19:45 Sports Roundup 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Multitrack 2

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz

06:00 News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 Newsline 09:30 VOA Morning 09:40 News 09:50 Newsline 10:00 News 10:10 Newsline 10:30 Focus 10:30 Special English News & Features 20:00 News 20:10 Newsline 20:30 Magazine Show 21:00 News 21:10 Focus 21:30 Special English News & Features 22:00 News 22:10 Newsline 22:30 America 22:30 Music USA Jazz 23:00 News & Editorial 23:15 Music USA Jazz 24:00 News 00:10 World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ An art exhibition by Olivia Palard at Alia Art Gallery (until March 28).

★ Book exhibition at the Comprehensive Commercial Centre (Tower Building), Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle (permanent).

★ General book exhibition at the Professional Associations Complex in Shamsan.

★ Book exhibition at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Arts.

★ Art exhibition by Samia Zarour at the Jordan National Museum of Fine Arts (until end of March).

★ An agricultural exhibition at the University of Jordan, Faculty of Agriculture (runs through 23 March).

★ Art exhibition by Mohammad Bouls and Mounira Al Tunisah at the Housing Bank Gallery (runs through April 19).

★ An exhibition of etchings by British artist David Hockney at the British Council. There is also a showing of video film entitled "Hockney" during the exhibition (until March 27).

★ First School Arts Exhibition at Ahmad Touqan School. Open during school hours until June 1988.

★ Kevin Eubanks Trio (guitarist, bassist and drummer) to perform contemporary jazz (23 March - 29 March).

★ Exhibition for the Spanish artist Maria Dolores Travassolo at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

FILMS

★ "Le fantôme de la liberté" at 8:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

WORKSHOP

★ Drawing and Painting Workshop, 10:00 - 12:00 hrs. at the French Cultural Centre.

★ Fairy Tale Women by Peter Whelan at 5:30 p.m. at the British Council.

PAKISTAN DAY

★ On the occasion of Pakistan Day, a flag hoisting ceremony will be held at the chancery of the Pakistani Embassy in Amman at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 23. All Pakistani nationals along with their families are cordially invited to attend.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267

American Centre .. 643771

American Centre Library .. 641520

British Council .. 6361478

French Cultural Centre .. 637009

Goethe Institute .. 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre .. 642033

Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624049

Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777

Haya Arts Centre .. 665195

Husseini Youth City .. 667181/6

Y.W.C.A. .. 664251

Amman Municipal Library .. 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (6th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Clotel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century oriental artists. Mustafa-zah, Jabal Luwaidah. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 662420.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:15 Agaba (RJ)
09:30 Cairo (RJ)
09:30 Kuwait (RJ)
09:30 Damascus (RJ)
09:30 Doha (RJ)
10:00 Dhahran (RJ)
10:00 Baghdad (RJ)
10:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
10:00 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
10:15 London, Geneva (RJ)
10:30 Madrid, Belgrade (RJ)
10:45 Bangkok (RJ)
10:45 Riyadh (RJ)
23:55 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:30 Cairo, London (BA)
08:30 Larana, Zurich (SR)
08:40 Damascus, Tripoli (PK)
10:20 Cairo (MS)
13:00 Tripoli (LN)
13:45 Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
14:00 Sana'a (TV)
15:00 Kuwait (KJ)
16:30 Baghdad (LA)
16:40 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
23:15 Karachi (PK)

DEPARTURES JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:00 Karachi (PK)
09:35 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:30 Athens (RJ)
12:00 Geneva, London (RJ)
13:30 Cairo (RJ)
13:30 Riyadh (RJ)
13:30 Kuwait (RJ)
15:00 Dhahran (RJ)
15:00 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
19:55 Baghdad (RJ)
20:00 Jeddah (RJ)
20:15 Frankfurt (LA)
20:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

04:13 Fair
05:31 (Sunrise) Doha
11:42 Muscat
15:11 Dhahran
17:53 'Aar
19:12 Maghreb
19:12 'Isa

PRAYER TIMES

04:13 Fair
05:31 (Sunrise) Doha
11:42 Muscat
15:11 Dhahran
17:53 'Aar
19:12 Maghreb
19:12 'Isa

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

There will be a slight rise in temperature during the day with south-westerly moderate winds. In Agaba, the winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 6/14
Agaba 13/22
Deserts 17/25
Jordan Valley 12/20

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 10, Agaba 19. Humidity readings: Amman 89 per cent. Agaba 43 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Mohammad Al Ajam 894184
Dr. Bahjat Badr 849362
Dr. Ibrahim Abu Qouta 740996
Dr. Dawood Al Obaidi 790367
Fina pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asena pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Sabhan pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644045
Smeisani pharmacy 637660

TAXIS:

Al Fatah taxi 776061
Al Qad (Alia Jordan) taxi 743383
Wassan taxi 776273
Ra'ad taxi 898633
Rawda taxi 741572
Umayya taxi 775780
Musab taxi 893092

TRAM:

Dr. Mohammad Al Shara'a 273680
Shara'a pharmacy 275825

ZARQA:

Dr. Khalil Abu Hussein 985000
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19
Radio Jordan 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661176
Telephone Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman Civil Defence 196, 199
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 271331
Civil Defence Qusaymah 770733
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 63014
Blood Bank 778303
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 622090-3
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 63014
Traffic police 8963907
Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 634881
Municipal water complaints 771258
Queen Alia Intl. Airport (06) 533040

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 81381/332
Khalifeh Maternity, J. Amm 642816
Al-Khat Maternity, J. Amm 64241/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malrose, J. Amman 63014
Palestine, Shamsan 661124
Shamsan Hospital 661124
University Hospital 945845
Al-Muasher Hospital 66227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 666146
Italian, Abdali 777101/2
Al-Bashir, J. Amman 775112/2
Army, Marka 89161/15
Queen Alia Hospital 60240/20
Amal Hospital 674155

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Apple (French) 420 / 360
Apple (green) 470 / 400
Banana 350 / 300
Banana (Minkumar) 300 / 240
Beans 580 / 500
Beans (wood) 280 / 220
Cabbage 280 / 160
Carrot 250 / 200
Cauliflower (white) 200 / 160
Cucumbers 280 / 220
Eggplant (large) 270 / 200
Eggplant (small) 300 / 240
Garlic 340 / 300
Garlic (green) 200 / 150
Grapefruit 250 / 200
Lemon 210 / 160
Mango 250 / 200
Onion (green) 220 / 170
Onion (dry) 220 / 170
Oranges (local) 220 / 160
Oranges (Shamsan) 220

Prince Hassan receives Algerian foreign minister

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan received the Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Al Ibrahim and discussed with him bilateral relations and means of bolstering cooperation between Algeria and Jordan.

Prince Hassan later received North Yemen's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Development and Planning Mohammad Sa'id Attar and discussed bilateral relations.

Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan attended the meeting.

Ureikat to set up committee to help NAF programmes

ZARQA (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat has decided to set up a committee in Zarqa Governorate to help carry out the programmes of the National Aid Fund (NAF).

The 12-member committee will contribute to the NAF's activities by spreading awareness among members of the public about the

fund's aims and objectives. The minister also announced the formation of a committee in Zarqa to take charge of services to the hearing-impaired in the Zarqa Governorate.

The 10-member committee will conduct a study on the handicapped and will propose measures to provide them with assistance.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GEOGRAPHICAL CENTRE: Chief of Staff Lt-Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb Tuesday presided over a meeting for the Jordan Royal Geographical Centre's Higher Committee and reviewed the centre's activities and future plans.

SUPPORT FOR UPRISING: A national committee to support the Palestinian uprising will hold a press meeting on Sunday, March 27, to discuss the current situation in the occupied Arab territories. The speakers will particularly explain the role of Palestinian women in the ongoing resistance and the committee's measures for supporting the uprising.

NHF ACTIVITIES: Transport and Communications Minister Khaled Haj Hassan Tuesday discussed with Noor Al Hussein Foundation Director General In'am Al Mufti issues pertaining to NHF activities and projects and the ministry's contributions to them.

NEWS EXCHANGE: A duplex line for direct news exchange between the Jordanian News Agency and the Moroccan News Agency was inaugurated Tuesday. The new line will be provided around the clock exchange of news and will help dispatch Petra news to several countries, particularly those in Latin America.

ZARQA SCHOOLS: Schools in Zarqa Governorate and Madaba district Tuesday celebrated Karamah Battle 20th anniversary which fell Monday, by speeches, songs and artistic performances, reflecting the importance of Karamah Battle and its effects on the contemporary Arab history.

SWEDISH ENVOY: Ministry of Social Development Secretary General Mohammad Al Suqour Tuesday discussed with the Swedish Ambassador to Jordan Lars Lonnabach, arrangements for holding a symposium on special education, in Amman on April 13 and the preparations for the Swedish Foreign Affairs Under Secretary's visit to Jordan on April 10.

SCHOOL EXHIBITION: Greater Amman Education Department Director Ahmad Arabiat Tuesday inaugurated Ahmad Touqan Preparatory School's first art exhibition, which will run until the end of this school year.

EGYPTIAN TEAM: An Egyptian labour delegation, headed by Ahmad Annamari, Tuesday discussed with Jordan Economic and Social Organisation for Retired Servicemen (JESORS) issues pertaining to insurance coverage for Egyptians arriving in transit or for work in Jordan.

7,428 CHILDREN VACCINATED: A total of 7,428 children from Amman Governorate were vaccinated against polio, diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus during last month, compared with 1,770 children, who were vaccinated against measles. A total of 1,017 mothers were also vaccinated against tetanus.

144,867 PATIENTS: A total of 144,867 patients called at the Amman Governorate health centres for treatment, during January and February, compared with 69,373 patients during the same period in 1987.

'Homeland, time, conflict' is theme of Zaru's exhibition

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — At the Jordan National Gallery, until the end of the month, is an exhibition by the active and committed artist Samia Zaru. The second in the gallery's current series featuring the work of local artists, the exhibition which drew large crowds on its opening night, is a colourful combination of several media through

which Zaru tries to express her main theme — in her own words that of "homeland, time conflict."

The main backbone of the exhibition consists of Zaru's almost naive abstracts. Made up of blocks of bright, raw colours where the evidence of bold broad brushstrokes impose a hasty texture, these pieces centre around what has now become Zaru's hallmark — the small patch of

cross stitch embroidery roughly cut out from an old traditional dress.

The fraying edges of the fabric pieces are picked up and emphasised by drips of paint allowed to flow across the areas of different colours, while the geometric patterns of the traditional designs are echoed in the small squares that seem to fall from behind the patch as though they have been shaken out.

Although almost all totally abstract there are one or two paintings that effectively incorporate the patches into a landscape making real the idea of fields pieced together like a huge and exotic quilt.

Zaru's sculpture at the Haya Centre, a stylised family group constructed in pieces of scrap metal is now a familiar landmark and the sculptures at this exhibition continue the same theme.

Simplified figures with tubes for heads and limbs and bodies made of curved metal sheets fill the hall along with some larger more abstract pieces, painted in electric blues and glowing oranges the surfaces of which gain added dimensions from the small pieces of metal welded onto them, and from the holes pierced in their sides.

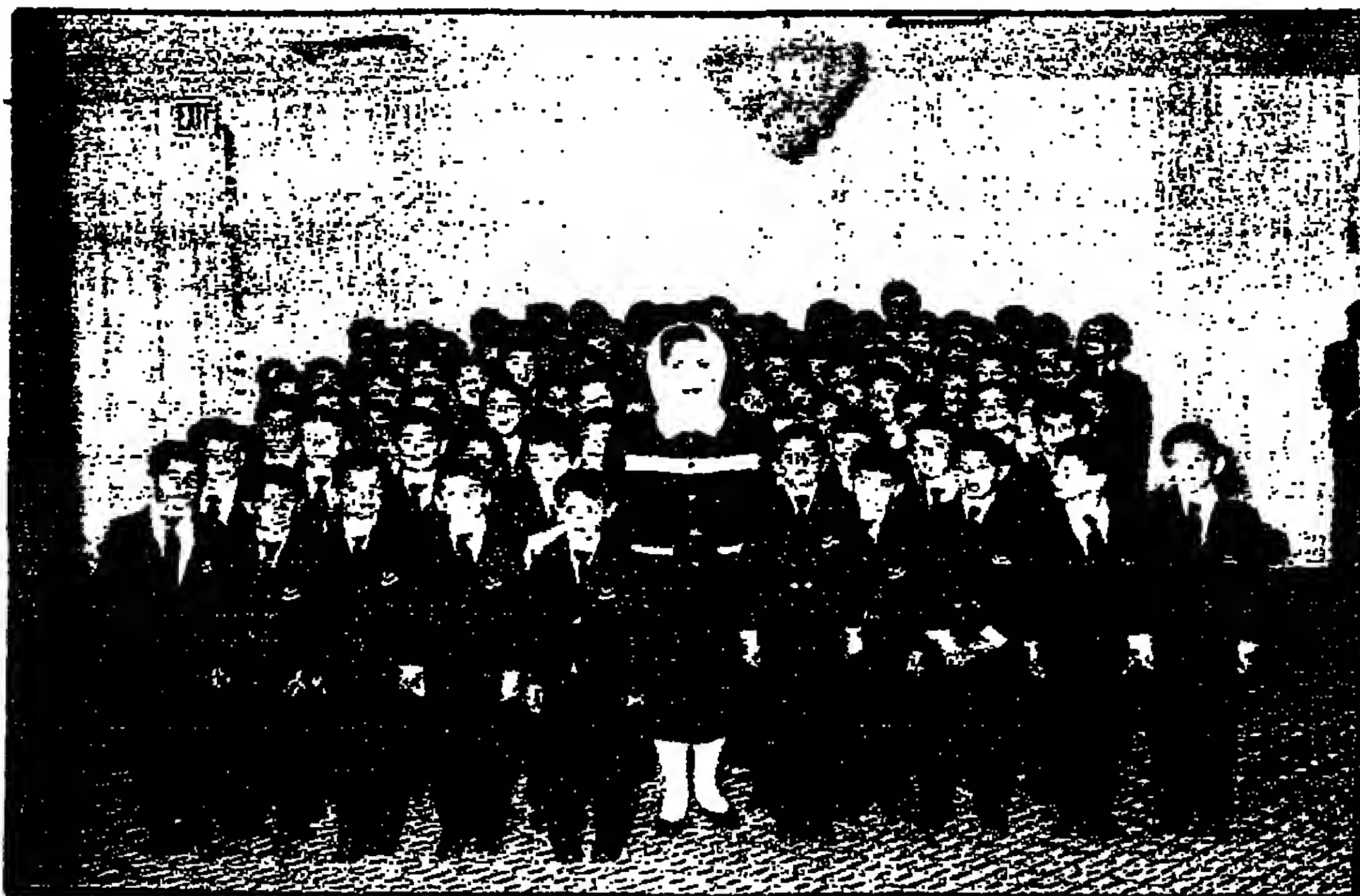
For many years Zaru has been very much involved with the traditional crafts of her country, particularly with the embroidery and weaving and by incorporating them into her art she makes a statement about her commitment to this often exquisite work.

It is, however, in her own weavings, applique work and tapestries, featured at this present exhibition that Zaru's true talent comes to light.

For many the highlight of the show was the huge hangings made of many different kinds of string, knotted and woven together in an uncountable number of ways and interlaced with big wooden beads and Hebrew glass baubles. Suspended from pieces of bleached sundried driftwood and anchored by huge rounded stones that totally complemented and enhanced the weaving, these pieces were engrossing and satisfying.

Other good pieces included the wall hanging whose geometric designs woven in thick wool are cleverly echoed by unwoven areas of warp.

The exhibition runs until March 30.



Her Majesty Queen Zain, the Queen Mother, poses with the children of the Um Al Hussein Orphanage Tuesday (Petra photo)

Queen Mother attends ceremony organised by Um Al Hussein Orphanage

AMMAN (Petra) — The Mabar-rat Um Al Hussein (Um Al Hussein Orphanage) held a ceremony at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel in Amman Tuesday, on the occasion of Mothers' Day, under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Zain the Queen Mother. Accompanied by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, the Queen arrived at the ceremony and was greeted by cheering children of the orphanage and the orphanage secretary general, Mrs. Ihsan Al Zain and officials.

Later, the Queen announced the donation of JD 1,000 towards promoting the orphanage's activities and programmes.

The ceremony was attended by Princesses, wives of the prime minister and cabinet ministers, and senior officials, members of the diplomatic missions and invited guests.

The audience donated JD 4,000 to the orphanage during the ceremony.

N. Yemeni health minister to arrive on March 30

AMMAN (Petra and J.T.) — North Yemen's Health Minister Mohammad Al Kabab is due here on March 30 on a visit to Jordan and talks on promoting bilateral cooperation in health-related fields.

The Yemeni minister, who will be accompanied by an official delegation, is expected to sign an agreement with Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh to regulate bilateral cooperation in implementing the minutes agreed upon during the Joint Jordanian-North Yemeni Higher Committee meeting held in Sanaa last month.

Hamzeh last week said that he will discuss the question of salaries for Jordanians employed in North Yemen during the delegation's visit to Jordan.

The minister said that between 160 and 170 Jordanian physicians and nearly 100 specialists will be employed in North Yemen and a date is yet to be fixed for the first batch of these doctors to leave for Sanaa.

Hamzeh said he invited his North Yemeni counterpart to discuss questions related to medical cooperation between the two countries.

North Yemen will be the second Arab country to conclude contracts for employing Jordanian doctors after Libya, which last month sent a team to Amman and selected more than 100 doctors to be employed in Libyan health centres and hospitals.

Arab Red Crescent societies support Palestinian uprising

AMMAN (Petra) — The Federation of Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Societies Executive Committee concluded meetings in Amman by issuing a statement expressing solidarity with the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The statement urged all peace loving nations and world organisations to stop Israel's practices against the Arab population and appealed to Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross societies to extend all possible assistance to the Palestinian people under Israeli rule.

The statement urged the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to intensify its activities inside the occupied Arab territories, to ensure the protection of civilians and to use its influence to end Israeli human

rights violations against the Arab population.

According to the statement, the Executive Committee has set up a team to raise donations from Arab countries for the Palestinian people, with priority for families of martyrs or detained people and hospitals.

The team, it said groups representatives of the Red Crescent societies in Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Libya and Palestine.

The statement voiced total support for serious efforts underway by the Red Crescent societies in

Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia in propagating the international humanitarian law, and decided to hold two seminars to help discuss this law in 1988 and 1989.

The committee recommended the establishment of a documentation centre for the Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross societies and that these societies be allowed to use Arabic in all its official documents and official correspondence.

The statement said that a general meeting for Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross societies will be held in Cairo but did not give the date.

Taking part in the two-day meetings were representatives of Red Crescent societies in Jordan, Egypt, Mauritania, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.



PRINCE MOHAMMAD VISITS: His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Tuesday called at the Ministry of Transport and Communications where he was briefed by Transport Minister Khaled Haj Hassan on the progress of work at the ministry and its various departments (Petra photo)

Masri underlines Arab League role

TUNIS (Petra) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri Tuesday sent a cable to Arab League Secretary General Chadi Kibi underlining the role of the Arab League as a force for pooling Arab countries efforts to achieve common goals.

In his cable marking the anniversary of the Arab League

establishment, Masri said that the anniversary falls at a time when the Palestinian people are involved in an uprising against Israeli occupation and atrocities and are seeking freedom.

He said: "Israel's oppression cannot and will not discourage the Palestinians from their course

of action to achieve liberation."

Masri referred to the Amman Arab summit where the Arabs achieved agreement and consensus and said that common goals cannot be achieved without a collective Arab action at all fronts.

Nsour receives Finnish delegation

AMMAN — Arab Potash Company (APC) Director General Ali Nsour met in Amman with the visiting Finnish economic delegation led by Alec Aalto.

Nsour briefed the delegation members on the company's development and programmes at its Dead Sea plant, and the marketing of the company's potash around the world.



Transport and Communications Minister Khaled Haj Hassan holds talks with Assistant Arab League Secretary General for Economic Affairs Abdul Muhssen Zalzeleh in Amman Tuesday (Petra photo)

Haj Hassan, Zalzeleh discuss Arab satellite meeting in Syria

AMMAN (Petra) — Transport and Communications Minister Khaled Haj Hassan Tuesday discussed with Assistant Arab League Secretary General for Economic Affairs Abdul Muhssen Zalzeleh preparations for the forthcoming meetings of the Arab Satellite Communications Corporation General Assembly, which will be held in Damascus in April.

Haj Hassan stressed the importance of the general assembly meetings, saying they will provide a forum for intensified discussions on means to support satellite communications in the Arab World.

The meeting will focus on means for using Arabsat to intensify such contacts, in a bid to cope with the accelerating commu-

nications revolution. The two officials also discussed the resolutions adopted at the Arab Transport Ministers Executive Bureau meetings which were held in Tunis recently, and the role of the Arab League in supporting the implementation of such resolutions.

The resolutions include manufacturing transport equipment and vehicles in the Arab World and the need for coordinating pan-Arab stands at the international arenas.

In a statement to Petra, Zalzeleh said the Arab League directs special attention to the transport and communications projects, in view of the major and significant role such projects play to achieve Arab economic integration.

Irbid doctors to attend workshop on forensic medicine

AMMAN (Petra) — A workshop on forensic medicine will open at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) near Irbid on April 9 and will be attended by doctors from the Irbid Governorate.

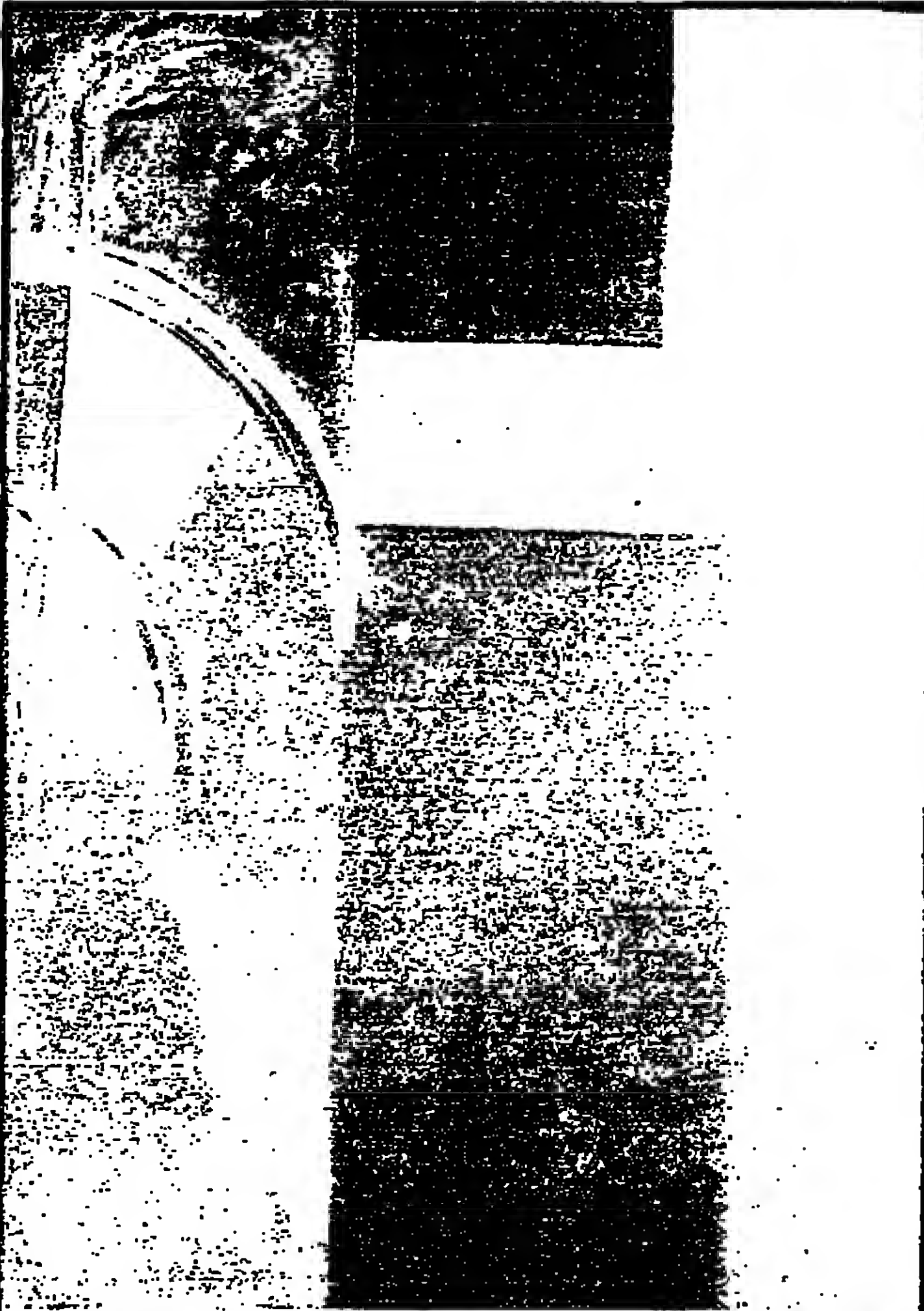
Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh will open the workshop which has been organised by JUST and the

Health Ministry. Participants in the four-day meetings will examine modern means of preparing reports on legal medical cases and dealing with injuries that could involve legal cases.

A group of specialists from JUST and the Health Ministry have prepared for the workshop.



One of Jordanian artist Samia Zaru's works cur ready on display at the Jordan National Gallery in Amman.



PALLARD'S PAINTING: One of the paintings of the artist Olivia Pallard currently on display at the French Cultural Centre. The exhibition of Pallard's paintings opened on March 17 under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali and will continue until March 28.

Jordan Times

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تأسيسه 1972

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تأسيسه 1972

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A loud, clear signal

THE shooting death of an Israeli soldier earlier this week could be a turning point in the tactics of the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It could also be a signal from the people of the occupied Arab territories that if four months of demonstrations, strikes and stone throwing are not enough to elicit recognition of their existence as serious interlocutors in a peace process, then they are prepared to escalate their struggle to more dangerous proportions to attain their objectives. Part and parcel of this message could be the rejection of the notion that the Palestinian uprising is being waged by rowdy teenagers whose political maturity and responsibility are so minimal that they cannot be taken seriously. This could be a gross error, with infinite implications.

We all recognise that any escalation would invite a counter-escalation, and thus the whole cycle of violence would suddenly shift into high gear, such that no known braking system would be able to stop it, much less reverse it. The time is therefore ripe to exercise the highest kind of statesmanship, to achieve justice and to reverse the tide of violence. Otherwise, it would be too late — Belfast and Beirut-like — for all men of good-will, and for well-intentioned leaders and parties, to sit around the negotiating table under the auspices of the United Nations, in order to resolve the Palestine conflict. A key order of business is for Israel to declare its readiness to engage the Arab parties in negotiations leading to Israeli withdrawal from all the Arab territories, on the basis of U.N. Resolution 242. As long as Israel remains silent on its commitment to implement that resolution, the revolt by the Palestinians under Israeli occupation will continue unabated, until it dawns on Israeli leaders that the status quo cannot continue with impunity. There is a clear lesson for Israel in all that is happening now in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including the shooting death of an Israeli soldier; we hope it will heed the message inherent in the escalation of the Palestinian struggle for recognition, liberation and self-determination.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: King pinpoints the threats

WHEN a nation is confronted with serious danger its people seek unity of ranks as the only means for defending itself. This was clear in King Hussein's address to the opening session of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) foreign ministers conference in Amman. The King pointed out the serious dangers posed to the Islamic nation and reminded his audience of the need for a pan-Islamic consensus and agreement on ways for confronting the dangers which are not threatening one country alone but all Arab and Islamic states. The King referred to Israel and South Africa which, he said, represent a challenge to the Muslims as they are backed by vast power, characterised with arrogance and are bent on their racial discrimination policies, denying other peoples their legitimate rights. A major part of the speech centred on the situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories where the King said the Palestinian people are maintaining their uprising against Israel's rule and struggling for freedom. The King paid tribute to the heroic resistance of the Arab people in the face of brutality and oppression exercised by Israeli troops, and called on the Islamic people of the world to extend all possible help to their brothers in Palestine to help them regain their freedom. The King also referred to the situation in the Gulf and urged Muslim nations to work diligently and seriously to end the conflict between Iraq and Iran.

Al Dustour: Islamic solidarity

KING Hussein addressed millions of Muslims Monday, calling for solidarity, cooperation and unity of ranks to serve Islamic causes. One of the most important issues for Islam at present the King said, was the continued occupation of Palestinian land and the atrocities of the Israelis against the Arab population. The uprising in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, he said, is a popular revolt expressing the Palestinian people's desire to acquire freedom and regain their land. The Islamic nations are called on to offer these freedom-fighters all possible aid so that the Palestinians can fulfil their aim. The King was careful to emphasise Jordan's total commitment to the Arab summit resolutions which among other things call for the convening of an international peace conference to deal with the Middle East question and help bring about freedom for the Palestinians in their own land. King Hussein pointed out another serious threat to the Muslim world represented in the Gulf war, and urged all Muslims to help end the bloodshed, expressing hope that Iran will respond to the calls of reason and peace, and help implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 which provides for a just settlement. The King's address to the Islamic foreign ministers meeting was in fact a call for conscience of people around the globe, and a reminder to Muslims to join their ranks and help establish the aspired peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: 4 points for OIC to consider

KING Hussein's address to the OIC foreign ministers conference on Monday underlined the following facts: First, that the Palestinian people are determined to regain their legitimate rights in their lands and to self-determination. This calls for the Arab and Islamic nations to provide all possible aid to the Palestinian people to help them achieve their aspired goals. Help should specially be extended now as the Palestinians are maintaining their uprising against Israeli occupation. Second, that the Jordanian position is firm and clear specially in the Kingdom's continued support for the Palestinians, and that Jordan is totally committed to the resolutions of Arab summit meetings which call for the convening of an international conference. Third, that the Gulf war presents a serious challenge to the Islamic nation and continues to sap the nation's resources. This war calls on the Islamic people to help implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 to bring back peace to the Gulf region. Fourth, that inter-Islamic efforts should be stepped up in helping Islamic African countries affected by drought and famine.

Is it time for a Keynesian yank?

By Nayef S. Zubi

THE consensus has been rapidly gelling over the course of the last year. The economy needs a substantive stimulus. Finally, a standard Keynesian fiscal stimulus is in place — a government spending doze. Keynesian economics and its corollary: the Phillips curve — the presence of a trade-off between inflation and unemployment — pronounced dead in many quarters of the world, seems to be alive and well between the lines of the joint memorandum of the Central Bank of Jordan, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Trade. The current economic slow-down and the emerging unemployment problem calls for a policy mix of a government spending programme and an accommodating tax policy, especially in light of low levels of inflation rates, so the memorandum argues.

The measures taken by the government include:

First, a programme for public works that focuses upon building schools, health centres, and government buildings. The programme also calls for supporting moderate and low-income housing. It calls for making available loanable funds to specific economic sectors — Agricultural Credit Corporation, Villages Development Bank, and Industrial Development Bank.

Second, a government spending programme of JD 25 million, of which 60 per cent would essentially underwrite bad investment decisions on the part of the Post Office Savings Fund, and on the part of investors in Jordan's Fertilizer Industrial Company. The other 40 per cent will be directed to pay for land bought from public.

Third, a programme for restructuring the activities of investment banking and money changers.

Fourth, a programme to attract foreign capital and foreign currency deposits.

Fifth, establishing a reinsurance company.

Sixth, a policy towards floating interest rates.

Seventh, reducing income taxes on revenues from renting houses and cutting water and electricity rates.

To Jordan economic ills, some of the government's new policies would have positive effects, and they deserve a closer and more critical look. In this article, and in another to follow, the anatomy of government spending will be addressed from two different perspectives: A Keynesian perspective, which the government seems to adopt and an incentive perspective which the government appears to overlook. Another two articles will project the specific effects of the government spending measures. The restructuring of the investment banking and financial sector, and the policies directed toward attracting foreign capital will be the focus of other articles to follow.

Government policies and economic activity: The chemistry

Government policies can affect economic activity in three different ways. One, by purchasing the services of labour, capital, and other factors of production, it alters the supply of factors available to the private sector for productive purposes. Second, by direct purchase of goods and services and by altering the disposable income of households, it alters the aggregate demand for goods and services. Third, by changing the relative prices of factors and products, it alters the allocation of resources, as well as the long-run patterns of growth and distribution.

There is not much of a debate regarding the above. The debate, however, focuses on the degree of effectiveness of government spending programmes in bringing about intended results, namely increasing the level of output, employment, and production. The debate also focuses on their long-term adverse effects.

In the Keynesian framework, it is the level of aggregate demand that determines the level of output, employment, and production. Supply is omitted in its entirety. Increasing government spending would put purchasing power in the hands of the public and would eventually lead to an increase in the aggregate demand for goods and services that precipitates further rounds in a rather cascading fashion. In a layman's language, if the government spends on, for example, building a public school, the payments to the factors of

production — labour and capital will be partly spent. The recipients of this spending will also partly spend their incremental income, thus stimulating other economic sectors. And so, the process goes on. The first dollar spent by the government is born again and again, causing what has been labelled the "multiplier" effect. The initial one JD spent by the government, in effect, ends two or three JD's depending on the "multiplier."

In a Keynesian framework government policies — especially in a down economy — should be directed towards stimulating the two components of aggregate demand: the induced component — the income level dependent expenditure component and autonomous component — and the expenditure component that depends on factors other than income — stimulating aggregate is the "Midas Touch" for an ailing economy.

Government actions that are directed towards increasing investment, exports or government spending — the autonomous component will increase output, employment, and production. In a similar vein, government policies that are directed towards increasing consumption at the expense of savings or imports or tax payments will also increase output, employment, and production. From that follow the main recommendations of Keynesian economics:

- Pursue a policy of low interest rates via increases in the money supply to entice greater investment;
- Supplement private investments by public outlays;
- Increase government spending or lower taxes;
- Devalue currency to expand exports; and
- Devise a progressive tax system that would fall more heavily on savings and imports. Discouraging imports and penalising that portion of income that is saved is meant to increase consumption.

There is no argument that the recipients of the government spending increases will spend more than they otherwise would. As a result, they will be better off. But that only tells half the story. It is a partial analysis of the problem. The relevant question, however, is the effect on total spending of those who are required to finance the increase in government spending. Whether the government finances its spending by raising taxes, issuing more debt or simply printing money, those who are required to pay more taxes, purchase additional debt, or hold the increase in money, will do so only as a result of lowering their spending. In short, higher government spending will simultaneously lower the spending of those who are required to finance it.

The above premise only indicates that the net increase in the aggregate demand due to the income effect of government spending is ambiguous, if not negative. On the other hand, the substitution effects are not ambiguous. Higher government spending especially if in the form of transfer payments, or in the form of waste programmes, reduces the incentives of people and other factors of production to provide their services to the marketplace. Once the effort-reward link is severed, the effect on output would be rather negative. In fact, the eligibility for many government programmes requires the absence of work effort. It requires a myriad of a "means" test, "income" test administered by the government bureaucracy. What does it take to be eligible for a government loan guarantee? Simply passing an "Income Level" criterion.

The point the above argument brings home is simple: Income effects of government programmes cancel out. For every Abdullah, there is a Tawfiq. What Abdullah — the recipient of government spending — spends, cancels out what Tawfiq — the one who finances government spending — abstains from spending. Remember, governments do not have resources they can claim their own. Not only income effect of government tend to cancel out, the substitution effect tends to diminish incentives in market activity. One would have no difficulty in envisaging a recipient abstaining at the margin from providing his labour in order to be eligible for a government programme. One also would have no difficulty in envisaging a situation where, at the margin again, a person who sees his marginal tax rates rising to finance government spending will abstain from providing his labour services. This anti-Keynesian argument will be the subject of the next article.



Israeli settlers take up defensive positions in the occupied West Bank

Zionists entrench, ignoring message

By Jeffrey Bartholet
Reuter

ARIEL, West Bank — Where torches once announced the new moon across the ancient Jewish kingdom, burning rubber tyres now send plumes of smoke with a different message.

Haim Spring, formerly from Chicago and now a Jewish settler in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, says they are no heed.

"We're absolutely happy here," he said, shrugging off a 14-week Palestinian uprising, as well as the business and friends he left behind in the United States.

"I feel I'm part of the historical Jewish people, which is a feeling of oneness that cannot be explained."

Between 60,000 and 70,000 Jews have created 120 settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, lands occupied by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war and demanded by 1.5 million Palestinian residents as a future state.

An additional 100,000 Jews live in new suburbs established in greater Jerusalem, annexed by Israel after the war.

They plan to stay.

Some Jews were attracted to the occupied areas by good and inexpensive housing. But many saw themselves as pioneers, like those from earlier generations who escaped persecution in Europe and Russia and came to Palestine to re-establish the Jewish homeland.

For them, the occupied areas

are an indivisible part of ancient Israel and essential to the survival of the modern state.

Haim Makovski, a 20-year resident of Israel and spokesman for the right-wing Gush Emunim organisation, directed a recent press tour of "Samaria," the ancient Jewish term for the northern section of the West Bank.

Many sites on the route had ancient names, which Makovski said evoked a sense of Jewish history come full circle.

Nablus is target

The city of Nablus, home to some 100,000 Palestinians, derived its name from the Greek Neapolis. Its earlier biblical name was Shechem.

The Israelis now put only Shechem on road signs in English, as if they were trying to write Nablus off the map.

"We see ourselves as the thorn in the conscience of the authorities," said Makovski. "We are the people who keep reminding our leadership, the land of Israel and the people are one and the same."

Once-barren hilltops are now speckled with hundreds of red roofs — a sign of Jewish habitation. On hillside still bare, Palestinians frantically plant olive trees to proclaim possession.

The settlers said they had aerial photographs to prove such lands were once uncultivated. They avoided roads that ran through scores of crowded Palestinian towns and villages.

"It's a real nice place here," said Bill Adelman, a resident of

Ariel, not so much a settlement as a small town.

"A better idea would have been if we took the Arabs out of Shechem and threw them across the river. We could have settled there and wouldn't have had to tear this mountain apart," he said.

Ariel's planners hope that one day it will be the capital of Samaria and home to 70,000 Jews. A leaflet heralds it as "the city of tomorrow."

While many of its current 7,000 residents commute to work in Tel Aviv, construction is booming in a new industrial park connected to the settlement. Makovski said 100,000 square metres of working space would be available at bargain prices by this summer.

Already, there are two lock and security-door factories, a distillery, a spring factory, a thread and rope plant and a plastics industry, Makovski said.

Settlers struggled to emphasise an atmosphere of normality about their lives. Even though a military vehicle now escorts him through the nearby Palestinian town of Kalkiya, Spring said the uprising did not affect him.

"I don't hesitate to invite my children to come and see me," he said.

Biblical atlas

Settlers used a Biblical atlas to justify on military grounds keeping the West Bank, and said it was as applicable today as it was for battles fought thousands of years ago.

The lesson of history was to control the ridge of hills running through the West Bank. From there, an enemy could look down on the "soft belly" of pre-1967 Israel, where the country was just 15 kilometres wide.

The settlers are convinced most Israelis know this lesson, and few are willing to sacrifice the high ground for a promise of peace.

Even the Labour Party, which espouses a land-for-peace platform, is not willing to return all of the occupied areas — the minimum demand of the Arabs.

The West Bank settlements began within months after the occupation of the area in 1967.

But the strong settlement push into the occupied areas occurred in the mid-1970s, following the initial success of a surprise Egyptian incursion into occupied Sinai in 1973, and accelerated when the right-wing Likud party took power in 1977.

Under Israel's 1979 peace treaty with Egypt, 3,000 settlers were forced to withdraw from Sinai, which was not considered part of ancient Israel.

In a last stand at Yamit settlement in 1982, soldiers wept as they dragged the settlers away.

Palestinians in the occupied territories have thrown stones and petrol bombs at settlers' cars, and on one recent occasion stabbed a Jewish boy living in the West Bank city of Hebron. Settlers sometimes raid local towns and villages, and have shot and killed several Palestinians, including children.

OPEN FORUM

... and justice for all

DURING the past month, Armenians have been on the march in Yerevan, the capital of the Soviet Armenian Republic, demanding the reunion of the Armenian region of Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia. The marches were so massive the Kremlin leadership saw fit to send emissaries to Azerbaijan and Armenia to solve the dispute.

Also during the past month, the Azeris, who are the predominant ethnic group in Azerbaijan, sought out and murdered, raped and robbed Armenians in the town of Sumgait, and ransacked their homes and shops and damaged their vehicles. All this because the Armenians were demanding what was originally theirs.

Throughout these events Armenians, trusting the new Soviet policy of glasnost and Gorbachev's sense of fair play, have apparently decided to wait for a final decision from the central government in Moscow. While the Armenians wait, the Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda attacks the leaders of the Armenian protests calling them "anti-socialists." Pravda says: "Thousands of threads have tied the Nagorno-Karabakh region to Azerbaijan over the past decades." If so, how come the vast majority of the disputed region want to rejoin Armenia? Furthermore, even if this has been true, who tied those threads? It is clear that since the early 1920s, the central government in Moscow has always favoured Azerbaijan over Armenia in its dealings with the region. After all, why would Moscow decide to give two Armenian territories — Karabakh and Nakhichevan — to Azerbaijan, if not to please one party over the other?

Pravda raises the issue of the future of the so called "fraternal union of the people." That fraternity is certainly questionable, as relations between Armenians and the Azerbaijanis have included antagonisms and mistrust, including many clashes throughout the years. The relationship the Armenians had with their eastern neighbours, which Pravda calls fraternal, was largely dictated to them from Moscow, most of the time with difficulty because of the deep-rooted mistrust.

Pravda asks, what if the rest of the regions start satisfying their own interests? It should be noted that the Armenians are not satisfying their own interests. To do that, they would have to ask for their independence, which they are not, nor do they have any plans to do so, unless, perhaps, if their long-standing grievances are not addressed and they continue to be treated, in their eyes, like second-class citizens. As for now, Armenians are asking for what was rightfully theirs — Nagorno-Karabakh. They have no interest in other regions. This point should be well understood by Pravda and the Soviet central committee when they debate the Karabakh issue.

At this moment, all Armenians in the world are focusing their attention on Mr. Gorbachev and the Soviet leadership, to see what action they will take. Armenians in the West, who always had cordial relations with the Soviet Union, are waiting for justice to prevail in Karabakh, hoping that the Soviets will not fall them again, as they have done time and time again throughout the 60-year history of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Ara K. Voskian

What happens in Afghanistan if the Soviets pull out?

By Robert Mahoney
Reuter

ISLAMABAD — What will happen in Afghanistan if peace breaks out in Geneva?

That's the question exercising the legions of Afghan specialists based in neighbouring Pakistan.

"My crystal ball is distinctly cloudy," said one seasoned diplomat after enumerating half a dozen scenarios ranging from a bloodbath to a military stalemate if the Soviets leave Afghanistan.

His vision may become a little clearer after meetings this week in Washington between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

The United States, which with Pakistan backs Muslim guerrillas fighting Moscow and its Kabul ally, hopes the meetings will revive stalled Afghan peace talks in Geneva.

Nobody besides some sceptical guerrillas doubts that Soviet soldiers will leave Afghanistan.

After nearly nine years of a costly war which has earned Moscow widespread condemnation, Mikhail Gorbachev is anxious to bring his 115,000 troops home.

It is the manner and the timing of their leaving that is crucial.

Conventional wisdom among the Afghan watchers is that the Kabul government of President Najibullah with its demoralised conscript army will collapse soon after the Soviets go.

The Mujahideen guerrillas, who claim to control 80 per cent of Afghanistan, certainly think so.

The army would fall apart without the Soviets, and regional militias are already sympathetic to the rebels, says Najibullah's Lafaie, of the Jamiat-Islami guerrilla group.

That is why he and other guerrillas do not believe the Soviet army will withdraw completely and hand Afghanistan to them.

The seven-party guerrilla alliance has opposed the Geneva negotiations and demanded direct talks with Moscow solely about a withdrawal.

If the Soviet Union does not grant their demand the Muslim guerrillas say they will fight to drive every last Soviet soldier out of their country.

They believe the Soviets would stay on in the guise of advisers to prop up the Kabul administration and withdraw their regular forces to bases just over border from where they could be rapidly deployed.

Many Western and Asian diplomats also doubt that the Soviet Union wants to leave a political and military vacuum in Afghanistan after having spent so much trying to secure its soft Asian underbelly.

"They want out but they want to minimise the damage," a Kabul-based envoy said.

Hence the Soviet desire to secure a Geneva accord which would be guaranteed by both superpowers and provide for no outside interference in Afghanistan.

As part of the deal Washington is insisting that Moscow cut off military aid to Kabul in return for an end to U.S. help to the guerrillas. This is the key issue blocking the signature of the agreement which Shultz hopes to overcome with Shevardnadze.

Another obstacle has been Pakistan's demand for a neutral interim government in Kabul to oversee the withdrawal. Without it Islamabad fears fighting would continue and deter its three million Afghan refugees from going home.

If the Geneva accords are signed Moscow will be able to bask in the warmth of international approbation, especially if television screens show Soviet leaders waving farewell before the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in May.

The war could go on, however, as not all military analysts are convinced the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) administration in Kabul would fold despite its bitter factional fighting.

"Kabul is the guerrillas' most important goal and it is well defended," a diplomat in the city said.

Uprising leadership calls for attacks on soldiers and settlers

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Underground leaders of the uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza have called on Palestinians to step up attacks on Israeli soldiers and Jewish settlers.

In a statement Monday, a day after the first Israeli soldier was killed in 14 weeks of protests, the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising called for "an escalation of protests against the Israeli army and the cowardly settlers by throwing stones, Molotov cocktails and iron bars."

It did not mention the use of firearms, previously barred by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leaders.

An Israeli reservist was shot dead Sunday while patrolling in the West Bank town of Bethlehem.

The army announced Sunday that soldiers had been ordered to fire without warning on any protester hurling a petrol bomb.

Leaflet number 11, relayed by the Palestine Press Service (PPS), also called on all Israeli-appointed Palestinian councils to resign or face popular retribution.

Declaring March 26 a day of struggle against all non-elected towns, village and refugee camp councils, it urged "the masses to severely punish all those who do not comply with the national consensus and refuse to resign."

The municipality building in the West Bank village of Beitunia was set on fire overnight, security sources said.

The Israeli-appointed mayor of Hebron, Abdul Majid Al Zir declined to say whether he would quit.

He told Reuters he would study the statement and "see what is going on." Other appointed mayors were not available for comment.

The leaflet ordered all Arab workers at Jewish settlements in

the West Bank and Gaza to cease work and urged Palestinians "to start austerity measures and be ready for a long struggle."

It also called for a "Day of Repentance" March 29 when Arab collaborators with the Israeli authorities would be given a chance to hand back their weapons and "purify their conscience."

The leaflet also contained criticism of Syria for the first time, calling on President Hafez Al Assad "to correct relations between Syria and the PLO because there is no justification for the strife between comrades in one war against the enemies of the Arab people."

Palestinian sources said the statement bore the political hall-mark of the Fatah movement.

Some of the earlier leaflets were believed to have been drafted by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), they said.



Armed Jewish settlers move in groups and the frequency of their attacks on Palestinians is steadily mounting

OIC pledges support for Palestinian uprising

(Continued from page 1)

tional level as well as with individual member states to consolidate joint Islamic action and achieve the goals of the pan-Islamic body.

The representative of Kuwait, current chairman of the OIC, had special words of praise for Pizarra.

The representative, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mahmoud Al Usami, paid tribute to Pizarra for his "untiring efforts to strengthen the OIC and consolidate pan-Islamic action."

Usami urged the Islamic countries to adopt a clear and unequivocal stand towards ending the Gulf war.

He said that the war "is a bleeding wound for the Islamic Nation and it should be stopped by all means."

Kuwait has been exerting its efforts for ending the conflict and has participated in the formation of a delegation to maintain contact with Iran to stop the fighting in implementation of the OIC summit in Kuwait but Tehran refused to receive the delegation, Usami noted.

He said Iran's refusal to implement Resolution 598 remains the stumbling block that impedes a peaceful settlement for the conflict. However, all efforts should be pursued to bring the fighting to an end, he said.

PLO

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representative Farouk Kaddoumi told the meeting that the OIC's solidarity with the Palestinian people was a "natural response to the situation in the occupied Arab territories and the uprising against Israeli occupation."

He said the uprising, which is now in its fourth month, was "a natural reaction to oppression, injustice, detention, displacement and measures designed to uproot the Palestinians from their homeland."

The Israelis, he said, have seized 57 per cent of the lands of the West Bank and Gaza for building settlements and are pursuing aggressive measures to swallow up more land.

Iran

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz addressed the conference in the morning session. He called the delegates' attention to the situation in the Gulf and said that Iran was maintaining its aggression on Arab territory and refusing to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

When the OIC heads of state held their meeting in Kuwait, Iran was busy launching a massive attack on Iraq with the aim of occupying Basra, and now, as the OIC foreign ministers are meeting in Amman, the Iranians are launching an attack on the north of Iraq, Aziz said.

He said that the eight-year-old war was continuing because Iran "is adamantly pursuing its goals of occupying Iraqi land."

He said Iraq had accepted Resolu-

tion 598 and of all other bids by world organisations for achieving peace and Iran had been rejecting all these bids.

Aziz said the Iranian riots in Mecca during last year's pilgrimage were an example of Iran's "aggressive attitude."

He said the OIC would not be able to "fulfil its objectives if Iran, an OIC member, persists on carrying its aggressive policies in this manner."

Aziz referred to the situation in the occupied Arab territories and paid tribute to the Palestinian uprising. He urged Islamic countries to extend a helping hand to the Palestinian people and to support their struggle for freedom.

Aziz also accused Iran of facilitating the emigration of Iranian Jews to Israel.

Iran's delegation leader, Mohammad Ali Tashkiri, was due to make a statement Tuesday. He took long notes during Aziz's address and later announced he would postpone his response until Wednesday morning.

UAE

United Arab Emirates Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashed Abdullah called for an end to the Iran-Iraq war in line with Resolution 598 and described the war as a "tragedy threatening the region and the whole Muslim Nation and the world."

He said the war "poses a threat to international peace and security and threatens international navigation."

Abdullah called for supporting the uprising in the occupied Arab territories and renewed commitment to the principles and decisions adopted during previous conferences on the Palestine question.

Egypt

Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid said peace "cannot be established as long as Arab people are subjected to oppression and occupation."

"Peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved unless a just solution for the Palestine problem is found," Abdul Meguid said.

He said the Palestinian uprising was a "revolt against oppression and an expression of the Arab population's determination to regain freedom."

Algeria

Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Al Ibrahim said that the United Nations Security Council serves as a suitable forum for resolving the Gulf conflict and that all parties should cooperate with the world organisation to achieve that goal.

He said that Islamic countries should not lose hope or stop efforts to bring an end to the war, "which has caused so much suffering and destruction."

Turkey

Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut

Yilmaz called for Islamic unity and for just, comprehensive and durable peace in the Middle East region. He said the Palestinian uprising had focused international attention on the humanitarian dimension of the Palestine question.

Meanwhile, prospects of upgrading the Moro National Liberation Front's (MNLF) observer status to full-fledged membership in the OIC seemed to have hit snags as the conference chairman, Foreign Minis-

ter Taher Al Masri, ruled out the likelihood of such an acceptance by the organisation.

The head of the eight-member MNLF delegation to the OIC, Nur Misuari, told the Jordan Times Tuesday that the front had not yet officially applied for a full membership and that it was waiting for a green light from a quadripartite committee entrusted with mediating between the MNLF and the Philippines government.

Text of statement on uprising

(Continued from page 1)

a new situation and exposes to the world the true nature of the Israeli, with its fascist practices and its aggressive, expansionist goals, based on the evacuation and expulsion of the population, the torturing and jailing of citizens in addition to the destruction of houses, the confiscation of land and property, the setting up of colonialist settlements on confiscated land, and the continued aggression against the sacred Mosque of Al Aqsa and all the Muslim and Christian holy shrines in the Holy Land of Palestine.

The uprising brought about new evidence that unmasked Israel's real face which it hid behind false pretences of democracy. This led the majority of states the world over, as well as regional and international organisations, in addition to various media throughout the world to condemn the Israeli repressive practices against unarmed civilians; it further convinced the international community and world public opinion of the justice of the Palestinian cause and the paramount importance of putting an end to the Israeli occupation of Arab and Palestinian territories, foremost among which is the city of Al Quds Al Sharif. It also emphasised the urgency of reaching a peaceful, just, permanent and comprehensive settlement to the conflict, in such manner as would ensure the national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return to their homeland and to self-determination.

Israel has to fully assimilate the lessons of history in the face of the new events and developments which have disproved the validity of the theory of secure borders which Israel has adopted as justification for perpetuating its occupation and annexation of territories, thus violating the Charter of the United Nations, and U.N. Security Council resolutions as well as the principles of international law and the 1949 Geneva Convention on the protection of civilians in times of war.

The 17th Islamic conference of foreign ministers of the OIC, while strongly condemning the campaign of repression, intimidation and murder launched by the Israeli forces against our Palestinian brothers, in the occupied Palestinian territories, in their desperate bid to crush their national uprising and stop them from claiming their national rights, appeals to all international and regional organisations and bodies to side with legitimacy and justice, in such manner as would put an end to the Israeli occupation of Palestine, and ensure the liberation of Al Quds and the Blessed Mosque of Al Aqsa, and establish as well a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

The member states of the OIC reaffirm their determination to provide material, political and moral support to their brothers in the occupied Palestinian territories and to the PLO, the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people, to enable them to confront the occupation authorities and pursue their glorious uprising, inspired by what Allah (Exalted be His Name) has ordained:

"Among the believers are those who have fulfilled their pledges to Allah, and some have died and others are awaiting their hour, and neither could have changed their lot."

Palme killer might be Iranian hit-man

STOCKHOLM (R) — Murdered Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme may have been the victim of an Iranian hit squad, according to a book published in Sweden.

Author Henrik Westander, of Sweden's Peace and Arbitration Society, said Monday U.S. Tower Commission, which investigated the Iran-contra scandal, had confirmed that three Iranian hit-men were sent to West Germany two months before the murder of Palme.

"Where was the hit-team the night Palme was killed?" Westander asked in his book, the Bofors Swindles.

The book discusses in detail a theory that Palme was murdered because he decided to stop deliveries from Sweden's largest arms producer Bofors to the Gulf a few months before.

"I am not saying Iran is definitely responsible. I am just saying that it hasn't been fully investigated," Westander said.

In the book, he names the Iranian government, Iranian fanatics and international arms-dealers of Iranian nationality as possible suspects.

Khartoum, SPLA near accord on relief in south

KHARTOUM (R) — The Sudanese government and southern-based rebels fighting its troops are close to an agreement on delivering relief supplies to guerrilla-held areas, senior foreign relief officials said Tuesday.

They said the government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) have been engaged for nearly two months in delicate and secret negotiations through third parties to secure an agreement to save the mainly animist and Christian south from mass starvation.

If concluded, it would be the first such agreement since the SPLA took up arms in 1983 to end what it calls the rule of a minority Muslim clique in Khartoum.

Hundreds of thousands of people are believed facing famine in an underdeveloped area devastated for nearly five years by the bush war and drought. Scores of deaths by diseases linked to malnutrition have been reported from the area in recent months.

Since the war broke out, an estimated two million people have fled the south to seek refuge and food in northern Sudan. Ethiopia, itself hit by a severe drought and a long-running civil war, appealed Monday for international assistance to deal with an influx of 257,000 southern Sudanese who fled across the border into its territory.

The relief officials, close to the negotiations, said an agreement would basically provide for relief food to be taken to rebel-held areas in the south by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in convoys flying the ICRC flag and without an army escort.

A senior Sudanese official, still to be named, would shortly travel to Geneva to meet ICRC President Cornelio Somaruga to finalise details of the plan, the officials said. Unconfirmed press reports here said Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi planned to travel to Geneva himself to meet Somaruga.

The SPLA has often ambushed relief convoys travelling in the south, where it controls several small towns and most of the countryside, claiming they also carried supplies for the army.

Relief officials have complained that commercial supplies, rather than relief food, made up most of the supplies reaching famine-hit southern

towns under army control. Army escorts, they said, made relief convoys SPLA targets.

An attempt by relief organisations in 1986 to negotiate a deal with SPLA to deliver food to areas under its control angered the Khartoum government and ended in failure.

"We must neutralise food and the ICRC is the best qualified body to do the job in a war where

food is a target," said one official. News of plans to deliver food to SPLA-controlled areas were first revealed by Mahdi at a news conference Sunday.

He said he had asked a technical committee to determine which areas in the south were under rebel control and explore the possibilities of delivering food there with ICRC aid.

Relief officials said that once an agreement was reached, ICRC teams would travel south to determine the amount of food required from donors such as the United States, the European Community and United Nations organisations.

Jordan pledges support for S. Arabia

(Continued from page 1) after Israeli "warnings" to Saudi Arabia following the revelation that the Saudis had acquired Chinese-made intermediate-range missiles.

An Israeli newspaper reported Sunday that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir warned U.S. officials that Saudi Arabia must get rid of the missiles.

Khaddoumi: New resolutions needed

(Continued from page 1)

But it seems, judging by Kaddoumi's statement, that securing Arab and international support for an independent Palestinian representation has become equal to or a prerequisite for achieving international recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

"The PLO has to have an independent and separate representation in the international conference and on equal footing with all the parties involved," Kaddoumi said. "In our view, the realisation of our independent representation is inseparable from the realisation of our inalienable rights."

In reply to a question about the relationship between the PLO and the Unified Command of the Uprising, Kaddoumi said it would be "an oversimplification to say that there is complete coordination between the two."

"It is more complex and deeper than that," Kaddoumi said. "But what I can say is that the command is mainly the party which decides the daily tactics in the popular struggle against the Israeli occupation; but it leaves the general political line and strategy to the PLO leadership."

But he added that a shift from unarmed resistance, except for stone-throwings, to an all-out armed struggle would require a

decision from the PLO leadership since this would "constitute a strategic resolution."

He emphasised that the PLO leadership takes into consideration the political demands and outlook of the command.

Kaddoumi spoke with pride about the new Palestinian generation in the occupied lands and the leadership of the uprising. He said Western observers who visited the occupied territories and later met with the PLO leadership were deeply impressed "by the high and sophisticated level of organisation of the command and its cells."

Kaddoumi reiterated the PLO's rejection of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's peace plan describing it "as an attempt to quell the uprising."

He expressed distrust in the American administration's readiness to find a comprehensive and just settlement to the Palestinian question.

"This administration is incapable of doing anything. It is just deceiving world opinion," he said.

"They are closing our offices and pretending they are seeking peace... they are using their veto against the PLO and saying they want peace... I think they are liars," he said.

"Shultz can go to hell," he declared.

AMMAN

Twice weekly as of May

Royal Jordanian is pleased to announce the opening of twice weekly service to Miami from Amman as of May 3, 1988. Serving the U.S. 14 times weekly with all widebody, 3 class flights, Miami is our fourth American gateway along with New York, Chicago and Los Angeles.

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Air fares rise in Egypt

CAIRO (R) — Egyptians paid one-third more for air tickets Tuesday and the government tinkered with its exchange rate system in a sign it was swallowing economic medicine prescribed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Bankers and Western diplomats said a decision to scrap one of the rates at which the Egyptian pound is calculated against the dollar was a move towards unification of Egypt's exchange system long sought by the IMF.

The move, announced Monday by Economy Minister Youssri Mustapha, was also seen as an indication Egypt would continue to work with the IMF despite problems fulfilling its reform demands.

"It seems to be moving towards IMF terms and that should help another IMF agreement and Paris Club rescheduling," a Western banker said.

Egypt and the IMF signed a standby credits deal last May which paved the way for rescheduling by the "club" of Western creditor governments of payments on Egypt's \$43.9 billion debt from January 1987 until next June 30.

The IMF has not given a public verdict on Cairo's economic reforms. But Western diplomats said it wanted more action to raise domestic interest rates, reduce subsidies, unify exchange rates and cut the budget deficit.

Egyptian and foreign airlines had long been promised a one-third increase when the government abolished the commercial rate at which fares were calculated, airline officials said.

In scrapping the commercial rate, the government also set a new rate for customs duties of 1.89 pounds to one dollar so as not to increase the cost of imports.

Western diplomats said this might upset the IMF, but the changes were on the whole in line with what it wanted.

They said it would facilitate a new application by Cairo for Paris Club rescheduling of debt payments from next July until the end of 1989 which would have been hard if the IMF agreement had gone wrong.

But the exchange rate changes in fact brought Egypt into line with its commitments to the fund on this score three months earlier than the formal deadline of June 30, one diplomat said.

Bankers said there would be no major inflationary impact except on air travellers — clearly judged by the government as capable of bearing the extra burden.

Following a secret review of Egypt's performance by senior IMF officials this month, fund experts were due to return to Cairo in early April, diplomats said.

Royal Jordanian to fly directly to two Indian cities this summer

AMMAN (J.T.) — Royal Jordanian (RJ) will start direct flights between Amman-New Delhi and Amman-Calcutta as of the coming summer, according to an official RJ announcement Tuesday.

The announcement said that the move is designed to help bolster Jordanian-Indian relations and promote tourist and economic ties between the two countries.

In February last year, an Indian civil aviation delegation visited Amman and held talks with RJ

officials on operating a direct air link between India and Jordan.

The visit resulted in the signing of a tentative memorandum of understanding to bolster bilateral cooperation in air transport.

The memorandum provides for RJ to operate a weekly flight between Amman and New Delhi and a weekly flight from Amman to Calcutta.

The RJ announcement did not disclose the number of flights nor the exact date for starting the operations.

RJ said that it will open a twice-weekly route between Amman and Miami in Florida as of May 3, 1988. Miami will be the fourth American gateway for RJ along with New York, Chicago and Los Angeles.

The RJ announcement also said that another route linking Amman with Montreal in Canada will be inaugurated in June 1988 but did not disclose the type of planes to be used on the new routes.

Sweden cancels \$20 million of Sudan debts

KHARTOUM (R) — Sweden has written off \$20 million of Sudan's debts, Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi said.

The prime minister gave no further details.

Sudan's foreign debt is estimated at nearly \$12 billion which it has not been able to service fully since the early 1980s. It has proposed to creditors a freeze on interest at current levels and 40 years to repay.

Cabinet ratifies industrial compound fertilizers project

AMMAN — The cabinet has decided to consider a new project by the Jordan-Kuwait Agricultural Products Company as a ratified agricultural project, entitling it to all benefits and exemptions provided for by the Jordanian Law on the Encouragement of Investments.

According to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic newspaper the cabinet took the decision upon recommendation from a special committee on investments working for the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply.

The project, set up in Aqaba, is for the production of industrial compound fertilizers.

The company began operations in Jordan in 1985 with a JD 4 million capital.

Tarawneh explains to car dealers tax assessments

AMMAN (J.T.) — Income Tax Department Director Salman Al Tarawneh met recently with representatives of car and spare part dealers at the Amman Chamber of Commerce and responded to questions relating to the self assessment forms and basis of tax assessment.

The major topics discussed during the meeting were as follows, according to Tax Brief, a publication issued by the Jordanian accounting firm Dajani and Alaeid.

A — Custom duties differentials: Custom duties differentials become due in some cases in relation to goods imported and cleared in prior years and which upon revaluation are subjected to additional custom duties in subsequent tax years. Such differentials were disallowed by tax assessors since they relate to a prior tax year. Tarawneh promised that such differentials would be allowed in the year of payment.

B — Penalties: These are penalties paid by taxpayers in relation to agreements and contracts. Tarawneh clarified that civil penalties resulting from non-compliance with agreements and contract clauses that fall within the realm of the taxpayer's ordinary business are considered as tax-deductible expenses. This however does not apply to criminal penalties resulting from violations of laws or regulations.

C — Commercial discounts: The director clarified the conditions under which commercial discounts shall be allowed. In brief, discounts must be properly supported, clearly documented, and the beneficiary must affix his/her signature upon receipt of such discount.

D — Bad debts: These are debts that taxpayers writeoff due to uncollectibility. The director clarified that such writeoffs are subject to the tax assessor's satisfaction as to the facts that constitute the basis of such writeoffs and whether they should be allowed as a tax deductible expense. Writeoffs decided by taxpayers without a reasonable basis will not be allowed.

Oil and gold prices dip

LONDON (R) — Oil prices slipped Tuesday and gold prices dipped as well, as traders started betting that OPEC was not yet willing to act to cut a world petroleum glut.

Moves by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to reduce the surplus of oil could bring prices up, they believe. That could rekindle inflation.

But OPEC President Rilwanu Lukman postponed a news conference, due for Tuesday, at which some traders had speculated he might announce new measures to end the glut.

Their first response to news of the postponement was to start selling oil. Then the price of gold, a traditional hedge against inflation, started slipping.

The price of Brent crude oil from the North Sea, a benchmark grade traded around the world, quickly shed more than 20 cents on that news, to sell at \$14.90 a barrel for May delivery. It had already been sliding from Monday's peaks of \$15.35.

Gold, which jumped sharply Monday on worries about inflation, shed more than \$1 an ounce, to trade around \$448 at midday, having been fixed in London Tuesday morning at \$449.25.

But the dollar was hardly changed at 1.69 Deutschmarks and 127 yen in Europe Tuesday morning. It traded at \$1.83 to the British pound sterling.

V.W.'s share price slipped on the news in unofficial after-hours

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for Tuesday, March 22, 1988.

| | Number | Volume | Contracts |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Regular market: | 217627 | JD 255829 | 363 |
| Top three companies: | | | |
| Intermediate Petrochemical Industries | 40394 | JD 58246 | 41 |
| Jordan-French Insurance | 6389 | JD 32682 | 7 |
| Universal Chemical Industries | 16800 | JD 29879 | 120 |
| Parallel Market: | 24603 | JD 13725 | — |
| Development bonds: | — | — | — |
| Treasury bills & bonds: | — | — | — |

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------|
| One Sterling | 1.8285/95 | U.S. dollar |
| One U.S. dollar | 1.2480/90 | Canadian dollar |
| | 1.6915/22 | Deutschmarks |
| | 1.8995/9005 | Dutch guilders |
| | 1.3990/90 | Swiss francs |
| | 35.34/39 | Belgian francs |
| | 5.7500/30 | French francs |
| | 1252/1253 | Italian lire |
| | 127.17/27 | Japanese yen |
| | 5.9720/70 | Swedish crowns |
| | 6.3680/3730 | Norwegian crowns |
| | 6.4925/75 | Danish crowns |
| One ounce of gold | 448.60/449.10 | U.S. dollars |

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Shares closed weaker after investors took profits in all sectors following three days of strong gains. The All Ordinaries index fell 12.9 to 1,419.7.

TOKYO — Shares closed lower in robust trade due to profit-taking caused by Wall Street's tumble overnight, a wavering dollar and lack of fresh incentives. The Nikkei index fell 123.51 to 25,842.75.

HONG KONG — Shares ended marginally lower, spurred by light profit-taking on good corporate results. The Hang Seng index slid eight points to 2,594.80.

SINGAPORE — Share prices closed moderately lower across the board as cautious investors took profits in fairly quiet trade. The Straits Times industrial index fell 11.60 points to 957.85 from Monday's close.

FRANKFURT — Shares ended a thin bourse mostly easier although carmaker Volkswagen bucked the trend, rising 4.80 marks to end at 245.60. Commerzbank's 60-share index, calculated at mid-session, fell 7.7 points to 1,436.7.

PARIS — Shares opened the main session lower in quiet trading with most major investors sidelined. The 50-share indicator dropped 1.36 per cent early in the session.

ZURICH — Shares ended mostly easier on moderate turnover, with mild profit-taking. The Swiss index fell nine to 850.5 points.

LONDON — Prices were mixed with an easier bias as the market continued this week's lacklustre trend. Volume continued depressed. At 1530 GMT, the FTSE 100 index was 4.3 points lower at 1,836.8.

NEW YORK — Wall Street gave up its modest early gains and turned mixed. The Dow 30 index was up one at 2,068.30 after rising to 2,074.

Chinese praises capitalism

HONG KONG (R) — Capitalism was mankind's greatest invention and communists should learn from it, China's chief representative in Hong Kong was quoted as saying Tuesday.

"Some of our comrades are afraid of capitalism because they know very little about it," said Xu Jiatao, head of the New China News Agency's Hong Kong branch — Peking's de facto embassy in the British colony.

Xu said in an interview printed in the pro-Peking Hong Kong newspaper, Wen Wei Po, that fear of capitalism had led to great economic losses for China in the past.

"These comrades do not realise that capitalism has also changed a lot since Karl Marx. In fact, the modern capitalist system is the greatest invention in the civilisation of mankind," he said.

W. German government sells stake in V.W.

BONN (R) — The West German government said Monday it was selling its 16 per cent stake in carmaker Volkswagen (V.W.) A.G., half a century after the state created the firm with the goal of providing every German family with a car.

Following weeks of market speculation that the V.W. sale would come before Easter, the government said it would offer its 4.8 million ordinary shares to the public at 238 marks (\$142) per share from Thursday.

V.W.'s share price slipped on the news in unofficial after-hours

trading to around 238 marks (\$142) from 240.80 marks (\$150.50) at the closing bell on the Frankfurt Bourse.

The sale, part of a programme to sell off state assets, will bring 1.14 billion marks (\$678 million) to government coffers. Lower Saxony state will keep a 20 per cent stake in the company.

This is the federal government's third attempt to sell off its stake in V.W., the firm which Adolf Hitler founded to make cars for everyone — Volkswagen means "people's car" — and

which made history's biggest-selling model, the snub-nosed Beetle.

The government decided on the sell-off in 1986, but the share flotation was shelved when V.W. announced it had been swindled out of millions of marks in a massive currency fraud.

In 1987, the government announced it would sell off its interest in V.W. in November, but it had to postpone the sale once again when the West German Bourse collapsed with other major world markets in October.

UNESCO cuts spending

HARARE (R) — UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor said Monday that he had introduced tough austerity measures to control the organisation's spending.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) had been criticised for alleged financial mismanagement under former director-general Mahtar M'Bow.

Mayor, who took over last year, told an airport news conference he had reduced the number of meetings, slashed paperwork and cut official trips.

He said the UNESCO general conference had asked him to make economies of \$2 million between Nov. 16 and Dec. 31 last

year to avoid a deficit.

"And this we made because I adopted very sharp measures of austerity concerning meetings that have been reduced in number and length by 25 per cent and by reducing all kinds of documentation by 50 per cent," he noted.

"I also adopted some measures concerning travel and all the activities of the organisation have been sharply reduced," he said.

Asked about members who have withdrawn from UNESCO, Mayor said he had written to them asking them to return.

The United States and Britain left UNESCO complaining the organisation had come under strong left-wing influence by Third World members.

Danes halt funding FAO

COPENHAGEN (R) — Denmark said Monday it will immediately withhold financial support from the Rome-based United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) pending reform of the agency.

"We consider that FAO is being run in an excessively bureaucratic, centralist and dictatorial fashion under its Lebanese Director-General Edouard Saouma and have decided to suspend support for new

FAO projects," said an official of Danida, the Danish government development aid agency.

Denmark had no intention of quitting the FAO, he added.

Neighbouring Sweden, Norway and Finland will also stop aid for new FAO projects, he said.

"FAO's method of management is close to corruption and our requests for an independent review of FAO's activities have been thwarted by Saouma," the official said.

Saudis to raise capacity of oil pipeline to Red Sea

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Saudi Arabia will increase the capacity of a pipeline transporting crude oil from fields on the Gulf to a port on the Red Sea by 55 per cent, an oil newsletter reported Monday.

Expansion of the cross-country facility to five million barrels a day "will make Saudi Arabia virtually independent of the Gulf for its crude oil exports, if the need arises," the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported.

The pipeline presently has a capacity of 3.2 million barrels a day.

The respected publication, citing authoritative Saudi sources, said the expansion will be accomplished entirely by expanding and upgrading pumping facilities and will not require laying of new pipe. Bids for the project were invited to be submitted by mid-March.

Iraqi sulphur company announces record production

BAGHDAD (AP) — A major Iraqi plant for sulphur mining and production has announced a record sulphur production of 500,000 tonnes, a government-run daily reported Monday.

The Baghdad Observer, Iraq's only English-language newspaper, quoted senior officials at the Mishraq Sulphur Enterprise as saying the output in mine sulphur increased by 10 per cent in 1987.

Another increase is expected to raise the half-a-million-tonne output to 650,000 this year.

Iraq's mineral resources include sulphur and phosphate rock besides oil. The sulphur was mined at Mishraq, near the

northern Iraqi city of Mosul, in 1972 under the supervision of Polish experts.

Most of the sulphur output is exported, mainly to India, Egypt, Romania and Italy, although a considerable amount of it is needed for the production of fertilisers at a phosphate processing plant in western Iraq.

The increase in the output was announced during a celebration held by Mishraq marking the occasion, the daily said.

The paper did not specify the output of previous years nor the capacity of the plant.

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Lions battle today in Africa Nations Cup

CASABLANCA (AP) — Morocco, the Lions of the Atlas, roared on by 80,000 highly partisan supporters, meet the Indomitable Lions of Cameroon in the semi-finals of the Africa Nations Cup soccer tournament Wednesday.

The hosts' fanfare was confident of advancing to the final where they will meet the winners of the other semi-final battle between the Green Eagles of Nigeria and Algeria.

Their wily Brazilian coach, Jose Mehdli Faria, is happy with his team's success in finishing top of Group A and he should have a strong line-up against Cameroon, second-placed finishers in Group B.

"We will win this tournament,"



Badou Zaki

he declared to a packed room of journalists.

Attacking midfielder star Aziz Bouderbala, who has just signed for French First Division club Maitre Racing, is expected to play after he was given the green light from his doctor in Paris at the weekend.

Bouderbala, the darling of the Casablanca crowd, had been recovering from a leg operation after an injury. One of the best players so far in this eight-nation tournament, his skill could be the vital difference between the two teams.

Morocco will also field Bouderbala's powerful Maitre Racing teammate, the veteran Merry Krinau.

Krinau turned in one of his best international performances in Morocco's thrilling 1-0 victory over Algeria last week.

Along with confidence-exuding goalkeeper Badou Zaki of Majorca, and St. Etienne star midfielder Mustapha El Haddaoui, Krinau has shuttled back and forth from Europe to play for his country in Africa's most prestigious soccer tournament.

However, there is a question mark over Zaki who appeared to injure his knee in a club game Sunday in Spain.

The Lions of the Atlas will for the first time be able to call upon Abdelmajid Dolmy, midfielder star of the 1986 World Cup finals, and the experienced Mohamed ia, but his team only managed a draw against Kenya in their last



Mohamed Timoumi

Timoumi of Belgian club Lokeren who was injured in the first game against Zaïre.

Dolmy, at 35 the old man of the squad has missed all the games so far through injury. His recovery provides Faria with an extra wise head on which he can draw.

After their 0-0 draw with Ivory Coast Saturday, Krinau told reporters: "With Dolmy and Timoumi, we will do the same in the semi-finals as we did against Algeria."

Cameroon, pipped by Nigeria to first place in Group B, could be heading for their third consecutive Africa Nations Cup soccer final.

The "Indomitable Lions" won the trophy in 1984 and were beaten in a penalty shoot-out with Egypt in 1986.

French coach Claude Le Roy would have preferred to win Group B and then stay in Rabat for a semi-final clash with Algeria.

"The players were already thinking of the semi-finals," he said. "We respect Morocco and our team will be very well prepared for this match."

The semi-final in Rabat also pits black Africa against the Arab north. Algeria, who have never won the Africa Nations Cup, want revenge against Nigeria's Green Eagles for depriving them of a place at this summer's Olympic Games.

The North Africans might also remember their only previous appearance in the final — Nigeria won 3-0 in Lagos in 1980.

Nigeria's Peter Rufai — one of the best goalkeepers in Africa — believes his side can lift the trophy for a second time. "There is no problem. We are ready," he said.

Nigeria and Algeria play contrasting styles of football. The Green Eagles rely more on speed and individual skill while the Algerians have a more collective game.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Thon rules out transfer to Tottenham

GELSENKIRCHEN, West Germany (R) — West German international midfielder Olaf Thon ruled out a transfer to English First Division club Tottenham Monday, saying he would prefer a move to Italy or Spain. "I'm not going to the English League," Thon told reporters, but said his present club Schalke were talking to Spanish side Atletico Madrid about a possible move. Tottenham manager Terry Venables had tried via a middleman to persuade Schalke president Guenter Siebert to part with his 21-year-old star player, club sources said. Schalke, currently fourth from bottom in the West German First Division, is demanding a 6.5-million-mark (\$3.9-million) transfer fee for Thon.

European title fight in France postponed

LONDON (AP) — Tec Nkalankete's defence of his European Light-welterweight Championship against Lloyd Christie has been postponed for three weeks, it was announced Tuesday. Paddy Lynch, Christie's manager, had asked for the postponement of the bout, originally set for April 9, to give his British fighter more time to train at the 140-pound limit. The fight for the Paris-based Nkalankete's title was rescheduled for April 29 or 30 in Lille, France.

Dominguez suspended for assaulting journalist

MARSEILLE, France (R) — Argentine striker Jorge Dominguez has been suspended for the rest of the season after assaulting a journalist, French First Division soccer club Toulon announced Monday. The club said Dominguez's contract would not be renewed at the end of the season.

Glasgow to bid for indoor championships

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP) — Glasgow has been chosen as the British candidate to bid for the 1990 European Indoor Track and Field Championships. The British Amateur Athletics Board picked the Scottish city, with a new indoor arena, and will present its case to the European Athletics Council in May. Ghent, Belgium, also is expected to bid for the meet.

ASBU to pay \$420,000 for television rights

SEOUL (AP) — The Arabic broadcasting network ASBU has agreed to pay \$420,000 for exclusive local television rights to this year's Summer Olympics in Seoul, Olympic organisers said Tuesday. The Seoul Olympic organising committee said the new agreement brought the total amount of revenue from television sales so far to \$407 million.

Mitchell forced out of boxing title bout

MADRID (R) — World Boxing Association (WBA) junior lightweight champion Brian Mitchell of South Africa has postponed his title defence against Puerto Rican Jose Rivera because of an injured right hand, the Spanish Boxing federation said Monday. A spokesman said the fight, which was due to take place Friday in Madrid, would now be held next month, although the date had not yet been fixed.

Ritchie charged with offensive behaviour

PERTH (R) — Former Australian test cricketer Greg Ritchie has been charged with offensive behaviour on the same flight on which England all-rounder Ian Botham is said to have grabbed a passenger in a headlock. Police said Ritchie, Botham's Queens-land team-mate, will appear in court Wednesday. The charge against Ritchie relates to an alleged incident on the flight from Melbourne to Perth March 15, after which Botham was charged with assault. Botham's case was on March 17 adjourned until Wednesday. He faces two charges of assault and one charge of disorderly conduct. Botham, who was not asked to plead, was released on bail.

Panel formed to help U.S. efforts to host World Cup

WASHINGTON (AP) — A 16-member advisory panel, chaired by former secretary of state Henry Kissinger, has been formed to help the United States' efforts to land soccer's World Cup Championship in 1994, it was announced Monday. The announcement was made by Paul Siebel, director of World Cup USA 1994, Inc., which is coordinating the project on behalf of the U.S. Soccer Federation. Kissinger will serve as chairman. Drew Lewis, former secretary of transportation, and Steven J. Ross, chairman of Warner Communications, will serve as vice chairmen. Brazil and Morocco also are candidates for the 1994 World Cup. A decision will be announced July 4 this year by FIFA, soccer's world governing body.

Mecir, Connors reach Florida tennis quarterfinals

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida (R) — Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia and American Jimmy Connors moved into the quarterfinals with straight-set victories Monday at the \$2.1 million International Players Tennis Tournament.

Chris Evert also advanced, but she drew more attention with the announcement that she would marry former skier Andy Mills within the year.

The third-seeded Mecir ended the bid of 14th-seed Mikael Pernfors of Sweden 7-5, 6-0, 6-1.

Connors, seeded second, advanced by eliminating 17th seeded Amos Mansdorf of Israel 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

Seventh seeded Barbara Potter ended the upset run of qualifier Sabine Auer of West Germany 6-3, 6-0. The hard-serving Potter had no problems against Auer — 384th in the world — who had beaten fourth seeded Hana Mandlikova of Australia.

Mecir, seventh in the world, looked very uninterested at the beginning of the match, as Pernfors coasted to a 4-0 lead. Suddenly, though, Mecir changed rackets and began producing winners in bunches, as he repeatedly caught Pernfors out of position.

The Slovak swept 19 of the last 21 games with brilliant tennis, while Pernfors seemed confused.

Mecir angled backhand passing shots past Pernfors with remarkable ease and worked his way to the net on Pernfors' weak second serve.

"I won here last year. I like this tournament. That is what keeps my game going good. I want to keep going against the better

players in the next rounds," Mecir said.

Evert, seeded second, suffered lapses in concentration before beating Pascale Paradis of France 6-4, 6-2.

The match had 13 service breaks in 18 games as both players successfully attacked their opponents' second serve throughout the 61 minute match.

Evert fell behind a service break in the second set at 1-2, but produced several strong passing shots to win the last five games of the match.

"I wasn't distracted by anything," said Evert, 33. "I just didn't play as well as I have in my last three matches. I think everything will blend together now that this (her engagement) is out in the open."

Connors served-and-volleyed more than usual to avoid engaging in long baseline rallies with Mansdorf, 23rd in the world. The 35-year-old Connors said that he tries to avoid long matches so he can recover properly for his next match.

Seventh-seeded Anders Jarryd of Sweden moved into the quarterfinals with his victory over Guy Forget of France 6-2, 1-6, 6-4, 7-6 and fifth-seed Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia overpowered 12th-seed Raffaella Reggi of Italy 6-3, 6-0.

Tomba leads after 1st run of slalom race

OPPDAL, Norway (AP) — Double Olympic champion Alberto Tomba of Italy, chasing his first overall World Cup title, took a clear lead after the first run of the men's slalom race Tuesday.

Tomba, who started 11th among 68 entries, posted the best intermediate time halfway and flashed down in 57.30 seconds at the finish.

Grega Benedik of Yugoslavia, only fourth halfway, was runner-up 0.43 seconds behind Tomba at the finish in 57.73, and Paul Frommelt of Liechtenstein came in third in 57.86 seconds.

Rudolf Nierlich of Austria was fourth in 58.36 seconds and World Cup title defender Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland was fifth in 58.42.

Swedish veteran Ingemar Sten-

mark finished sixth in 58.63 seconds.

The 780-metre first run, with a vertical drop of 207 metres, had 64 gates set by Peter Endrass of Sweden.

Dietmar Koehlbichler, and Guenther Mader, both of Austria, were placed 7th and 8th in 58.65 and 58.91 seconds.

Armin Bitter of West Germany was 9th in 58.97, Tetsuya Okabe of Japan 10th in 59.00, Peter Roth of West Germany 11th in 59.05, Mathias Berthold of Austria 12th in 59.14, Jonas Nilsson of Sweden 13th in 59.32, Thomas Stangassinger of Austria 14th in 59.35 and Hubeert Strolz, also of Austria, was 15th in 59.37.

The second run, also with 64 gates set by Hans Pum of Austria, as scheduled to start at 1 p.m. local time (1200 GMT).

China to host '90 volleyball championships

PEKING (R) — Defending champions China will host the next women's World Volleyball Championships in 1990, Ruden Acosta, president of the World Volleyball Federation, said Tuesday.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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FALSECARDING MADE EASY

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ K J 3 2

♥ K J 4 3

♦ Q 5

♣ Q 8 2

EAST

♠ A 9 8

♥ Q 8 2

♦ J 6 3

♣ A K J 5

SOUTH

♠ Q 7 6 4

♥ A K 6 5

♦ A K 6 5

♣ 10 9 7

The bidding:

South West North East

1 Pass 1 Pass

1 Pass 3 Pass

4 Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

What would you think about a book on deceptive plays that starts off with the advice: "Don't bother with them!" To illustrate his point, the author cites this hand.

The bidding is routine. North's raise to three-spades is invitational and South has the minimum for acceptance.

You lead the king of clubs and partner plays the three. There is no way you are going to beat this on high cards, but there may be a way to promote a trump trick. Three things must happen: 1. Clubs must be 4-3-3-3; 2. Partner must have the ten of spades; 3. Declarer must lead a spade from dummy to his

queen.

"If all this happens, you will win the first round of spades and lead the 13th club. This will promote a trump trick. All this happening is against the odds, but something is better than nothing."

"Putting it into practice, you continue with the ace of clubs and another. Declarer wins and leads a spade to his queen and your ace."

"The good news is that partner has the ten of spades. The bad news is he has just played it. When you lead the jack of clubs, declarer guesses the position and makes the rest. What went wrong?"

"The answer is that partner was falsecarding... He played the ten hoping to discourage declarer from finessing in spades if the situation were:

♠ Q 9 8 ♠ K J 3 2

♠ 10 5

♠ A 7 6 4

"Partner was trying to do a good thing. It just happened that, on this occasion, it cost a game contract."

Why, then, should you buy the book? ("Falsecard," by Mike Lawrence, Devin Press, paperback, 215 pp. Available from The Bridge World, 39 West 94th St., New York, NY 10025-7124 \$9.95 post free) Because there are many situations where falsecards are obligatory, and these are analyzed in depth by one of the finest player-writers in the game today. It was most informative.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Platter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You will be able to "bune in" on new arrangements and changes through logical planning this morning, so strike while the iron is hot. Don't allow an associate to upset your schedule and your mood.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Don't rely on your friends or colleagues in handling an important business venture. Take it easy at home tonight, and get plenty of rest.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't do anything which could imperil a highly valued friendship. You will have an opportunity to improve your financial situation.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Keep busy at the work you have committed yourself to, and avoid beginning any new projects. Get plenty of rest tonight.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Have a discussion with an expert about a future investment opportunity, but save some money for possible emergencies.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Put your personal desires on the back burner until you have completed more pressing obligations. Avoid a nervous pal who will waste your time.

SOME TIME FOR A RELAXING RECREATION with your good friends. This is not a good time to ask your superiors for any big favors.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't become involved in any new projects until you have finished those you have already begun. Follow the advice of a financial expert.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Your communication abilities will be unusually keen this morning, but avoid a silly argument with your mate over money tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Focus your attention on practical matters today, and steer clear of an angry associate. Don't do anything to upset a superior.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Don't argue with a co-worker, as this person may be purposely trying to start a fight. Use your good judgment and remain calm.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Listen to your mate's ideas, and establish more harmony at home. Handle your practical affairs, and don't run off on any wild tangents.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Don't just sit around doing nothing tonight; go out and visit some good friends, but be sure you drive with the utmost care on the highways.

The Daily Commuter Puzzle



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

DAVE COLAS LEAP

EDIS ORATE EIRE

EDIS RIGGS BATH

DETECTED TRASH

DEEL SEAN

ADDRES RETRIEVE

TRA EYER STRAD

TAME SETUP VALE

ICONS HAWMO SUB

CONTRARY LOSERS

RIANT PEDR

ATLANT HAMMERED

BRIAN HEARER EIRE

LALIS ERIES ZAME

EYRE RELIET ELEM

40 Leashed 57 Unemployed

42 Odd fellow 58 Meat cut

45 O'Connery 59 Ceremony

47 Party snack 60 Gabagoke

50 Wealth 61 plant

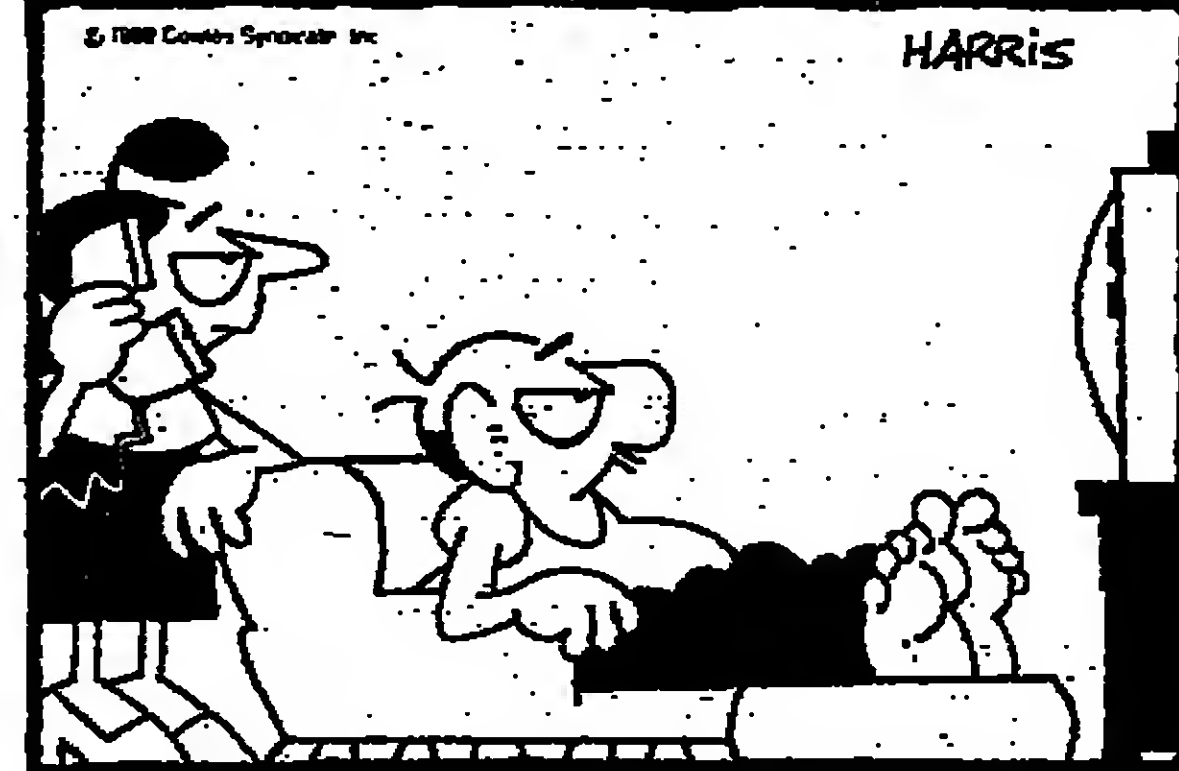
52 Most pleasant 62 Baking place

54 Smallest 63 Information

56 Cleanser 66 Golf peg

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"We are unable to complete your call as dialed. Blame it on your husband and try your call again."

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KOSTE

LIMPE

TALLEB

NECKAR



HE IS WEARING A NICE NEW SUIT BUT HIS POG ONLY THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "O O O O O"

(Answers tomorrow)

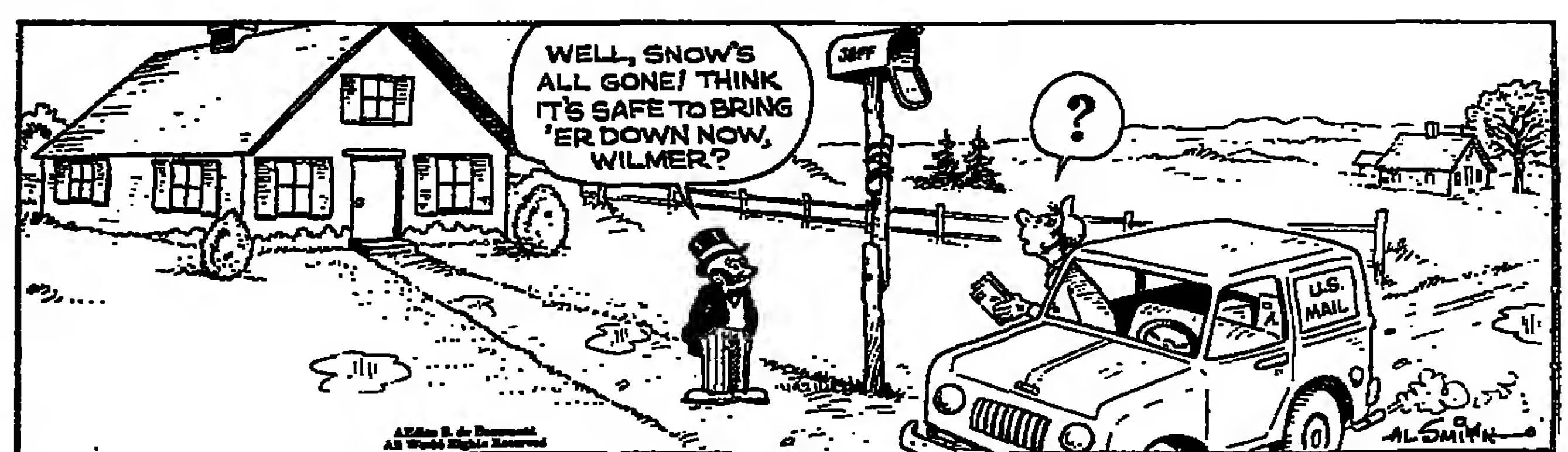
Yesterday's Jumbles: PROBE WHILE SAILOR MINGLE

Answer: Why they called him Beely—HE WAS IN HIS "PRIME"

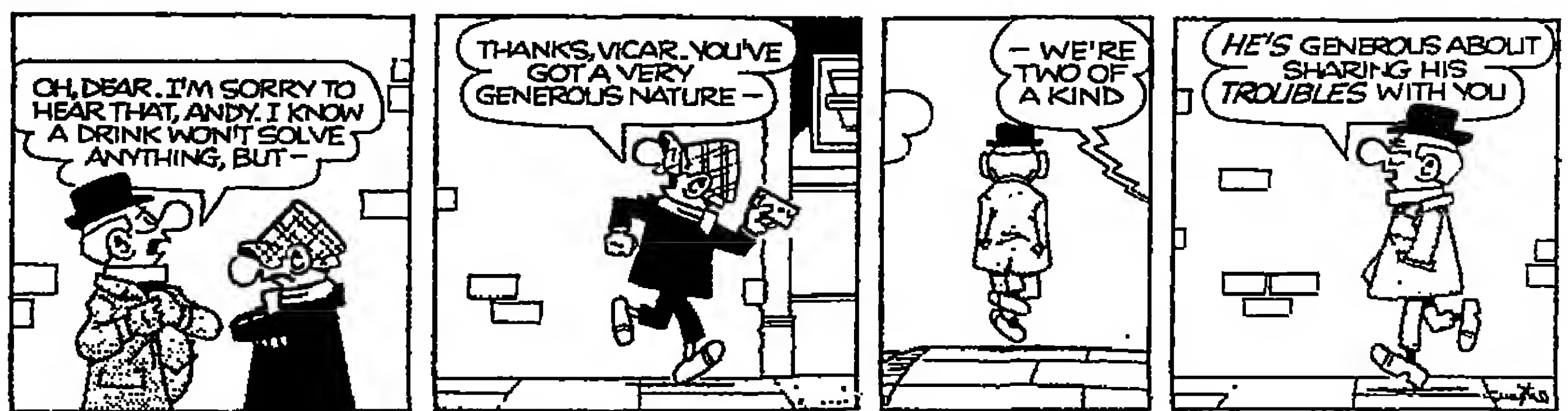
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



U.S., opposition reject Noriega's resignation offer

PANAMA CITY (R) — Beleaguered military ruler General Manuel Antonio Noriega has offered to step down as head of the armed forces before general elections next year, but the olive branch was rejected by the opposition and the U.S. government.

Panamanian Acting President Manuel Solis Palma announced Noriega's offer in a televised address Monday night, saying it was conditional on the results of a national dialogue with all the country's political forces.

Noriega's move was rejected by the opposition and the U.S. government, which want him to leave the country.

U.S. State Department Spokeswoman Anita Stockman said in Washington: "We believe the offer is little more than a ploy... and an effort on the part of Noriega to maintain direct or indirect control of the Panamanian Defence Forces."

Leaders of the National Civic Crusade, which organised a general strike Monday that crippled the country's two major cities, said the offer did not change the situation and the strike would continue.

"The strike will go on"

"Our position is the same it's always been. We are ready to talk

but only at the moment that Noriega says he's leaving. The strike will go on," said Pierre Leighnadier, vice-president of the chamber of commerce.

Another Crusade leader, Rafael Severino, said: "Solis Palma hasn't said anything. The strike continues."

The strike shut 90 per cent of the country's business and industry, and demonstrated that opposition to Noriega's rule has spread from the middle class to the workers once considered the backbone of support for the military-dominated government.

Noriega, 50, remained defiant after Solis Palma's speech.

"There is no reason to talk to the United States. I am talking with the Panamanians," he told reporters as he left the presidential palace Monday night. "Here we are winning the ultimate battle against colonialism."

"Before the people of the United States. I accuse the State Department of trying to create another Vietnam," Noriega said,

directing his comments at American television cameras.

"You want to traumatise North American society and North American youth by sending them to fight in Central America, spilling North American blood in Central America," he said.

Solis Palma said in his address: "Manuel Antonio Noriega... has put his post at my disposition, giving his word as a military officer and a gentleman to leave his post at an opportune time before the electoral process."

National dialogue

"But I make the use of this facility (to accept the resignation) conditional on the results of a national dialogue with all the political forces of the country. If this does not happen, it is no," said Solis Palma, who was hand-picked for the presidency by Noriega.

Noriega's offer followed White House statements that Washington was no longer prepared to negotiate the general's voluntary departure from Panama.

On Friday, Noriega rejected a U.S. proposal that he accept political asylum in Spain. As part of that plan, Washington said it would not seek his extradition to face criminal charges in the Un-

ited States. Noriega, chief of the 16,000-strong army and Panama's de facto ruler since late 1983, was indicted last month in Florida on drug-running and racketeering charges.

U.S. sanctions aimed against Noriega have thrown Panama's economy into near-chaos and widened domestic opposition against him.

Blunt rejection

In Washington, rejection of Noriega's offer to resign was blunt. "We stand by our previous view that Noriega should go and the sooner the better for Panama," Stockman said.

"Noriega is the problem and his preoccupation with remaining on the scene despite overwhelming domestic opposition will only ensure continued economic and political instability there," she said.

She described Noriega's call for a dialogue with the opposition as an attempt to legitimise Solis Palma's government.

The United States recognises Eric Arturo Delvalle as president even though the Panamanian National Assembly ousted him when he tried to dismiss Noriega.

Ceasefire agreed for duration of Nicaraguan peace talks

SAPOA, Nicaragua (R) — The Nicaraguan government and U.S.-backed contra rebels have agreed on a ceasefire for the duration of peace talks, scheduled to last until Wednesday.

Both sides ended optimism after the first day of talks in this border town, aimed at ending the seven-year-old conflict.

"It has been an important day," said Nicaraguan Defence Minister Humberto Ortega, leader of the government delegation, after the first meeting Monday in Sapoa, 140 kilometres south of Managua near the Costa Rican border.

"After coming out of the talks, we did feel we had accomplished something," Adolfo Calero, the rebels' political leader said in a press conference.

"We have agreed to suspend operations against the Sandinista Army... for the duration of the talks," rebel spokesman Bosco Maramoros said.

Ortega earlier declared the government's own halt to hostilities, saying it would "contribute towards creating a better climate."

The upbeat mood at the talks got a boost from President Daniel Ortega's announcement in Managua that the government had signed a preliminary 11-point agreement on a range of political issues with some opposition political parties.

The contras had demanded progress in talks between Ortega and the opposition as a precondition for reaching a long-term ceasefire accord with the Sandinista government.

The agreement with eight mostly centrist and leftist political parties commits the government to give them access to the media and maintain political dialogue.

Six other mostly conservative parties declined to sign the accord although they participated in the talks leading up to the agreement.

Both the peace talks and Ortega's dialogue with the opposition parties are mandated in a Central American peace accord he signed with the presidents of four other central American nations last August.

The Sapoa peace talks were the first since the Sandinistas launched an offensive last week against contra positions along the northern border with Honduras.

S. Africa strike spurs widespread unrest

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Two blacks were killed, seven injured and 39 arrested during a nationwide protest strike that sparked the most extensive violence this year, police reported Tuesday.

Dozens of buses, delivery vans and private cars were stoned or firebombed Monday, the 28th anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre, and security forces used tear gas, rubber bullets, birdshot and dogs to disperse rioters, police headquarters said.

Police said the two deaths and five of the injuries resulted from attacks by blacks on blacks. Two blacks were injured by police.

Several of those arrested were trying to prevent children from going to school and workers from going to their jobs, police said.

The protest strike was organised by anti-apartheid activists in defiance of emergency regulations banning calls for such actions. Hundreds of thousands of black workers and students stayed away from jobs and classes, both to mark the anniversary of the 1960 police shootings of 69 blacks in Sharpeville and to protest the recent banning of black opposition groups.

The Star of Johannesburg, the country's largest daily newspaper, said protest strikes would continue "as long as grievances are not directly addressed."

"Instead of tension being relieved through the extension of rights and the removal of restrictions, each new round of protests is met with further clamps which inevitably lead to fresh protests," it said.

Anti-apartheid paper banned — On Tuesday, the South African government banned the anti-apartheid weekly newspaper the New Nation, which has backing from the Roman Catholic Church, making it the first victim of censorship laws decreed last

August. The ban, announced in the government gazette, runs until June 10 and is renewable. The action followed the defeat Monday of a court challenge by the weekly to state of emergency censorship powers.

New Nation had a circulation of about 60,000 and a much larger readership.

No reason was announced for the ban but government lawyers had previously complained that the paper promoted revolution with its coverage of black leaders and engendered hostility towards police and the army.

Crisis convention — Meanwhile, Anglican church leaders held a crisis convention Tuesday to rally behind black Archbishop Desmond Tutu in his conflict with South Africa's white-led government.

In an unprecedented move, bishops were hurriedly summoned from across southern Africa to a Johannesburg airport hotel to discuss the church-state confrontation with an envoy of Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie.

The envoy, Bishop of Lichfield Keith Sutton, declared that Tutu — a reputed target of criticism and ridicule by South African whites and state-run media — had the church's full support.

"I see him as a shepherd of the people and defender of the faith," Sutton said.

He praised the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner for continuing to preach non-violence to frustrated blacks struggling to end South Africa's apartheid race segregation.

Twelve bishops, black and white, attended the convention which follows mounting attacks on the church from government ministers. Six others failed to arrive on time.

Aquino orders sweeping army reform

MANILA (R) — Philippines President Corason Aquino Tuesday ordered sweeping reforms of the Philippine Army to throw more combat troops against the growing Communist insurgency.

She told senior army officers she would abolish the much-criticised unified regional command structure and give field commanders more independence to take on the guerrilla New People's Army in the jungles and mountains.

"I want more men behind guns, less behind desks," she told senior officers and troops at a parade to mark the 91st anniversary of the Philippine Armed Forces.

The pledge to end the unified command brought immediate backing from top field commanders who said it would cut red tape and give fighting commanders more flexibility.

"(This) means the commander is king in his area," said Major General Cesar Tapia, who controls thousands of the Philippines' most seasoned troops in the country's southern command.

The unified command system had been widely seen as a hangover from ousted president Ferdinand Marcos' martial law regime, enabling him to secure the army under his personal patronage.

It is the first time Aquino has moved to institute major changes in the way the 160,000-strong regular military machine operates.

AIDS kills over 400 Australians

SYDNEY (R) — More than 400 people, including seven children, have died of AIDS in Australia since the killer disease was detected here six years ago, according to official statistics released Tuesday. Most of the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome cases were reported in New South Wales, the country's most populous state, which includes Sydney. The figures from the National Health and Medical Research Council showed 418 of the 795 AIDS victims, mostly aged between 20 and 49, have died. The majority of AIDS sufferers were homosexuals.

Teenage brides want out

LONDON (R) — Two British women, who claim they were sold as teenage brides in North Yemen, are seeking divorces so they may return to Britain. The British Foreign Office said Monday. A spokesman could not say when the divorces would take place, but a British newspaper said that Zana Mubsen, 23, was due to get a decree Monday. As a condition of her divorce she must leave her infant son behind. The Observer newspaper quoted Zana as saying she would be free to go home after the divorce but would not leave until her younger sister, 22-year-old Nadia, was allowed to travel with her. Nadia cannot leave because her husband refuses to grant her a quick divorce, and under Yemeni law, no married woman can leave the country without her husband's permission, the newspaper said. Nadia will also have to leave her two young children, including a baby girl still being breast fed, because the Yemeni fathers will automatically get custody of the children.

Farmer on a rampage

HONG KONG (AP) — A farmer in southern China killed two men with a hoe and a child with a knife in a one-day rampage and later committed suicide in jail, a newspaper reported Tuesday. The rampage began after Xu Jafin and another peasant argued over a plot of sugar cane on March 12 at Pingsha farm in Doumen county of Southern Guangdong province, the Wen Wei Po said. Xu used his hoe to batter the head of the peasant, Yu Changzao, and then did the same to a farm team leader who came to break up the fight, the report said. Both men died, it said. Xu returned home, picked up a knife and headed to a primary school, where he pulled Yu's 6-year-old son out of class and killed him, the newspaper account added. Xu, about 30 years old, severely injured two other people before being caught. The newspaper said that in jail, Xu killed himself by banging his head against the wall.

Chris Evert officially announces engagement to Andy Mill

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida (R) — American tennis star Chris Evert Monday confirmed earlier reports when she officially announced that she will marry former U.S. Olympic skier Andy Mill sometime in the next eight months. "We are engaged," the 33-year-old Evert confirmed after advancing to the quarter-finals of the International Players Championships. "We might get married after Wimbledon or after the U.S. Open, but I don't think we should have to wait eight or nine months the second time around when we have made a commitment," Evert said. Evert and British tennis player John Lloyd were divorced last year. Mill, 35, recently divorced his first wife. Evert, ranked third in the world, said that the two became engaged last Thursday — the day Mill told Reuters that the two getting married "is inevitable."

No more poppy plundering

COPENHAGEN (AP) — A Danish seed company has developed a poppy with a reduced content of opium, a spokesman said recently. "We are doing this so that drug addicts will not feel tempted to pick or cut the poppies to get the drug, and so that farmers will continue to be allowed to grow poppies," said Christian Petersen of Daehfeldt, the biggest seed producer in Europe. The white poppy is popular in Denmark for its seed, traditionally used in bread. The plant's juice contains opium, which can be refined into morphine and heroin. Drug addicts have been known to plunder poppy fields in Denmark.

Border tension eases between Honduras, Nicaragua

TEGUCIGALPA (Agencies) — Border tension between Honduras and Nicaragua eased Tuesday after Honduras said Sandinista intruders had gone home, and Nicaragua agreed to a limited ceasefire with contra rebels.

Honduran troops said they reached the scene of reported clashes between Nicaraguan soldiers and contras. They found mines and evidence of heavy fighting, but no Sandinistas.

An armed forces spokesman said journalists would be flown to the remote jungle area to see evidence of the Nicaraguan incursion as soon as the rainy weather permitted.

The announcement that Sandinistas had withdrawn coincided with the resumption of peace talks and the start of a limited truce between Nicaragua and the contras.

Soon after, the more than

3,000 airlifted American soldiers in Honduras suffered their first casualties.

10 U.S. soldiers injured

Ten U.S. soldiers were injured, none seriously, when their light Huey helicopter crashed during manoeuvres at Juticalpa, 55 kilometres from the Nicaraguan border.

Bickering continued as Tegucigalpa rejected Managua's charges that Honduran warplanes flew 100 kilometres deep into Nicaraguan territory.

But the conflict appeared to have been transferred to diplomatic ground. Honduras again rejected as unnecessary the visit of a United Nations fact-finding mission scheduled to visit Nicaragua Wednesday to investigate the clashes with contras.

Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras told Reuters Central American peace accords already had established ways of checking violations.

He said he would attend a meeting of the five Central American countries in Guatemala Wednesday to turn Nicaragua, which is taking Honduras to the World Court in The Hague, into the accused rather than the prosecutor.

Lopez Contreras said Nicaragua had dropped its charge against Honduras of harbouring armed rebels to clear the way for the accords, and taking it up again would only interfere with the peace process.

He also took the Contadora Group of nations to task for planning to denounce in a U.N. Security Council meeting Tuesday the U.S. airlift to Honduras while failing to condemn the Nicaraguan incursion.

He accused his counterparts in the five-nation group seeking peace in Central America of bias.

U.N. team to leave

Meanwhile, at the United Nations, a fact-finding team was to leave Tuesday for Nicaragua to investigate the recent border clashes.

The delegation, sent at the request of the Nicaraguan government, was to include two diplomats and two military observers, the United Nations announced.

The delegation was to be limited to observing conditions in Nicaragua, said a U.N. statement released Monday.

Hepatitis epidemic worse than reported in China

PEKING (AP) — Nearly 300,000 people have become sick and 11 have died in Shanghai's 2-month-old hepatitis epidemic, with about 800 more people falling ill each day, an official report said Tuesday. The highest figures Chinese officials released previously were 16,000 ill and seven dead, but Western doctors visiting Shanghai have insisted the epidemic is much worse.

Armenians resume protests

MOSCOW (R) — Thousands of people took to the streets of the Armenian capital Monday following indications that the authorities were taking a hard line over a disputed region of Azerbaijan, dissident sources said.

A Moscow dissident told Reuters she had heard from witnesses that about 7,000 people gathered outside the main press building in the city of Yerevan to protest against an article in the Communist Party newspaper Pravda.

Independent sources in Yerevan could not be reached by telephone.

Pressure has been growing among residents of the republic for a mainly Armenian-populated enclave in neighbouring Azerbaijan to be reunited with Armenia.

The article published in Pravda Monday gave a clear indication that the Kremlin was not planning to bow to pressure to change the borders of Armenia and Azerbaijan.

The hint that the authorities were preparing a tough line was supported by a TASS commentary read out on the main evening television news Monday, attacking some of the organisers of February's Yerevan protests.

By Kate Dourian
Reuter

BELFAST — The graffiti on the walls of Belfast's Catholic and Protestant ghettos are a replay in garish colour of gruesome killings and almost daily funerals in this divided city.

"Super prot Michael 'Rambo' Stone is a hero," screams the writing on the wall of a Protestant estate on Shankhill Road in mainly Catholic West Belfast.

Stone has been identified as the alleged attacker who hurled grenades and fired a shotgun at 10,000 mourners in Belfast's Milltown Cemetery at the funeral Wednesday of three Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas shot dead by British commandos in Gibraltar.

On Saturday, while many of the same mourners gathered to bury a victim of the cemetery attack, Kevin Brady, two British soldiers drove into the funeral cortege, were beaten up by a mob and later shot dead by IRA guerrillas.

A wrong turn is often fatal in the maze of Belfast's slums where paramilitaries — Catholic and Protestant — hand out their own brand of street justice.

The cemetery attack raised tension on both sides of the strictly defined sectarian ghettos, littered with the charred and twisted hulks of buses and trucks hijacked and set ablaze after the Gibraltar killings.

The grim shadow of violence

Belfast lives constantly under the grim shadow of violence, but this week's atrocities shocked even those hardened by 18 years of sectarian warfare that has claimed more than 2,600 lives.

The warfare between Protestants, battling to keep Northern Ireland as a part of the United Kingdom, and Irish nationalists

fighting to force the British out, is fought in the garbage-strewn ghettos of burned-out tenements and abandoned houses.

The children of West Belfast were seemingly oblivious to their macabre surroundings as they played in Monday's sunlit streets and parks, some stopping to buy ice cream from a van parked at the scene of Saturday's killings.

There is little activity on the streets of Catholic West Belfast, where unemployment is sometimes near 80 per cent. Men and women sit in doorways or behind curtained windows, eyeing strangers with suspicion.

The "War on Want" office is shuttered as are most of the shops lining Shankhill Road, where only the betting office seems to attract custom.

In the absence of shop window displays, political graffiti provides diversion for visitors to the unruly British province.

A statement by Mairead Farrell, one of the IRA squad killed on a bombing mission to Gibraltar, is painted on a wall beside a derelict church.

"Legitimate right to take up arms"

"I have always believed we had a legitimate right to take up arms," she says in a posthumous declaration of her belief in the IRA's struggle to kick the British out of the north and unite the island with the Catholic republic in the south.

But, on the other side of a brightly-painted corrugated iron fence separating Catholics from Protestants, is the solemn pledge of the Ulster Volunteer Forces (UVF), an illegal group dedicated to loyalty with the British crown.

"The UVF," it says, "reserves the right to strike at Republican targets where and when the opportunity arises."



An injured man is helped after last week's attack in Milltown cemetery, Belfast, where three Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas shot dead by British soldiers in Gibraltar were buried.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

India: No nuclear bombs

NEW DELHI (R) — An Indian government spokesman dismissed Monday a news report from Washington that India has built about 20 highly sophisticated nuclear bombs. "It does not even merit a comment," an External Affairs Ministry spokesman told reporters querying the report from Washington by a news agency (not Reuters) that the low-yield bombs could be delivered by combat aircraft. He repeated the comment by India's ambassador to the United States, P.K. Kaul, who had told reporters "It is a figment of imagination." India exploded its first nuclear device in 1974 but it has always denied it has actually assembled nuclear weapons.

Tokyo police search following bombings

TOKYO (R) — Police Tuesday searched the headquarters of a leftist radical group after two bombs exploded in central Tokyo Monday evening. Police officials said they had searched the offices of the Central Core Faction (Chukaku-ha) in connection with a rocket attack in January against Tokyo's main airport at Narita. They declined to comment on whether the search was related to Monday's explosions, which damaged several vehicles and smashed a number of windows. The police also declined to confirm media reports that the explosions were caused by time bombs laid by a radical group opposed to expansion plans for Narita Airport, 60 kilometres northeast of Tokyo. No group has yet claimed responsibility for Monday's explosions.

Sikhs blast police post with rocket

AMRITSAR, India (R) — Sikh militants used rockets successfully for the first time Monday night in an attack on a paramilitary post in Punjab state, police said. About 50 paramilitary police were camped in the grounds of a temple at Phagwara, when a rocket blew a hole in the outer wall. The extremists fired two rockets at the temple about 100 kilometres from the Sikh holy city of Amritsar. Only one exploded and nobody was injured. Police said it was the first time Sikh militants fighting for an independent state had successfully exploded a rocket.

Cabinet shake-up in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — No major economic or foreign policy changes are expected in the wake of a cabinet shake-up in which almost half of President Suharto's former ministers were dropped. Only 18 ministers of the previous 40-member cabinet were given assignments in the new one Monday. Suharto said the changes he announced on national television were designed to continue established policies and infuse new blood. "The new cabinet will ensure the continuation of past policies as well as tackle the problem of regeneration (of Indonesia's leadership)," Suharto said. Among those replaced were Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Ali Wardhana, Mines and Energy Minister Subroto and Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja. Veteran Finance Minister Ratus Prawiro, 59, will be sworn in Wednesday to succeed Wardhana as economic czar.

Judge to visit alleged 'torture colony'

SANTIAGO, Chile (R) — A mysterious colony of German immigrants, accused of collaborating in the torture of Chilean political prisoners, will be visited next month for the first time by a local judge, legal sources said Monday. The visit to the Colonia de la Dignidad (dignity), set for April 28, follows headlines in West Germany recently after gruesome testimony by former inmates about alleged conditions behind the camp's barbed wire fences and electronic gates. A West German court requested the inspection in connection with a 10-year-old libel action brought by the colony against Amnesty International, which accused Dignidad of aiding secret police torturing detainees after the 1973 military coup which brought Chilean President Augusto Pinochet to power. Amnesty lawyer Maximiliano Pacheco told Reuters he learned of the visit from court officials at Parral, where the colony of some 350 inmates is located, 400 kilometres south of Santiago in the foothills of the Andes.